

The Church Gathered

August 1, 2021

11:00 a.m.

*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance
about what we do not see.
– Hebrews 11:1*

Prelude

The Solid Rock

Nancy Muskrat

Arr. Jeffrey Bennett/Bruce Greer/Nancy Muskrat

Welcome to Worshippers

Bruce Muskrat

*LORD of the living, in your name assembled,
we join to thank you for the life remembered.
Hold us, enfold us, to your children giving hope in believing.**

Hymn of Praise 318

For All the Love

ENGELBERG

**For all the love that from our earliest days
has gladdened life and guarded all our ways,
we bring You, LORD, our song of grateful praise: Alleluia!**

**For all the truth from wisdom's lighted page,
undimmed and pure, that shines from age to age,
God's holy Word, our priceless heritage: Alleluia!**

**For all the hope that sheds its glorious ray
along the dark and unknown future way,
and lights the path to God's eternal day, Alleluia!**

**For Christ our LORD, our Savior and our friend,
upon whose love and truth our souls depend,
our hope, our strength, our joy that knows no end: Alleluia!**

Words by L. J. Edgerton Smith, ca. 1925

Chorus of Adoration

Alleluia

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia . . .

He's my Savior, Alleluia . . .

He is worthy, Alleluia . . .

I will praise Him, Alleluia . . .

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Responsive Reading

Leader: Be glad and rejoice! Lift up your voice and sing!

Congregation: In the world today, our LORD is alive!

Leader: He lives! Christ Jesus is alive!

Congregation: We know that He is living. He lives in us today!

Leader: Lift up your voice! Rejoice and sing!

Congregation: You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!

Hymn of Testimony 622

He Lives

ACKLEY

**I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever foes may say.
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
and just the time I need Him, He's always near.**

**He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.**

**In all the world around me I see His loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that He is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of His appearing will come at last.**

**Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind.**

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Pastoral Prayer

Jerry Marsh

*Help us to treasure all that will remind us
of the enrichment in the days behind us.
Your love has set us in the generations, God of creation.**

Hymn of God's Provision 323

How Great Thou Art

O STORE GUD

**O LORD my God! When I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds Thy hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:**

**And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in:
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.**

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"**

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Offertory Prayer

Wanda Helms

Instrumental Offertory

C. L. Bass

Reading of God's Word

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

David Bedford

The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem:

*"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly
meaningless! Everything is meaningless."*

*What do people gain from all their labors at which they toil
under the sun?*

*Generations come and generations go, but the earth remains
forever.*

*The sun rises and the sun sets, and hurries back to where it
rises.*

*The wind blows to the south and turns to the north; round
and round it goes, ever returning on its course.*

*All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full. To the
place the streams come from, there they return again.*

*All things are wearisome, more than one can say. The eye
never has enough of seeing, nor the ear its fill of hearing.*

*What has been will be again, what has been done will be
done again; there is nothing new under the sun.*

*Is there anything of which one can say, "Look! This is
something new"? It was here already, long ago; it was
here before our time.*

*No one remembers the former generations, and even those
yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow
them.*

*God, you can lift us from the grave of sorrow
into the presence of your own tomorrow;
give to your people for the day's affliction your benediction.**

Hymn of Revelation 34

Word of God, Across the Ages

AUSTRIAN HYMN

**Word of God, across the ages comes the message to our life;
source of hope forever present in our toil and fears and strife;
constant witness to God's mercy, still our grace whate'er befall,
guide unfailing, strength eternal, offered freely to us all.**

**Story of the wondrous journey from the shadows of the night;
garnered truth of sage and prophet, guiding forward into light;
words and deeds of Christ our Master, pointing to the life and way,
still appealing, still inspiring, 'mid the struggles of today.**

**In the tongues of all the peoples may the message bless and heal,
as devout and patient scholars more and more its depths reveal.
Bless, O God, to wise and simple, all the truth of ageless worth,
till all lands receive the witness and Your knowledge fills the earth.**

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Message

Hope for the Flowers . . . and for Us
Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Nancy Muskrat

Hymn of Hope 590

The Solid Rock

SOLID ROCK

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.**

**When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.**

Words by Edward Mote, 1834

Special Called Business Conference

David Bedford

Benediction

Bruce Muskrat

Postlude

C. L. Bass

Deacon of the Week – Wanda Helms

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