Worship for Sunday, September 20, 2020  
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman  
Bette Kahler  
Kathy Fanella  
Nancy Stewart

Prelude

Call to Worship  
Kathy Fanella  
Come to worship Jesus Christ, Alpha and Omega, the One who is, who was, and is to come (Revelation 1:8).

*We come to worship the One who rules justly* (2 Samuel 23:34).  
Come to worship Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth! (Revelation 1:5).

*Bread of heaven, God with us!* (John 6:51, Matthew1:23).  
Good shepherd, True vine! (John 10:11; 15:1).

*Eternal Word, great I am* (John 1; 8:58).  
Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace! (Isaiah 9:6).  
*We come to worship Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords! To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!* Amen. (Revelation).  
Come, Let us worship!

Opening Prayer  
Kathy Fanella  
Let us pray: Holy Spirit, descend upon us. Fill our hearts and minds with your presence. We have made plans and preparations for what this morning might look like, but we want to be sensitive to your leading. Guide us as we worship. Help us to set aside our own agendas that we may be ready and willing to follow your leading. Draw us nearer to God that we may be once again reminded that we belong to him. In your holy name, Amen.
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhastening, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might.
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.

Hymn GTG #12
St Deno
Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation

Kathy Fanella

Let us come before the lord with our prayers of confession and reconciliation. Let us pray:

Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.
Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against nation.
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.
Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

Assurance of Grace

Hear the good news!
Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ,
And Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us,
Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ
Is a new creation.
The old life has gone:
A new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen

*Response of Praise  GTG#544

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life (sing 3 times)
Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from your mouth. Give us a hunger for your Word, and in that food, satisfy our daily need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures

Daniel 7: 7-14  
(NRSV - the first seven verses are just given as background material)

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then, as I watched, its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a human being; and a human mind was given to it. Another beast appeared, a second one, that looked like a bear. It was raised up on one side, had three tusks in its mouth among its teeth and was told, “Arise, devour many bodies!” After this, as I watched, another appeared, like a leopard. The beast had four wings of a bird on its back and four heads; and dominion was given to it.

After this I saw in the visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and stamping what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that preceded it, and it had ten horns. I was considering the horns, when another horn appeared, a little one coming up among them; to make room for it, three of the earlier horns were plucked up by the roots. There were eyes like human eyes in this horn, and a mouth speaking arrogantly.

As I watched,

thrones were set in place,

and an Ancient One took his throne,

his clothing was white as snow,

and the hair of his head like pure wool;

his throne was fiery flames,

and its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued

and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,  
   and the books were opened.

I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being  
   coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
   and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
   and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
   that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
   that shall never be destroyed.

A quiet time of reflection

Revelation 1:1-8  New Revised Standard Version
The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; he made it known by sending his angel to his servant, John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it; for the time is near.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
   every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
   and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Meditation
More will be Revealed
Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

Hymn GTG #357
The Days are Surely Coming
Llangloffan

(see next page)
The Days Are Surely Coming  357

1 The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth,
   when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth.
   My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land
   and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.

2 The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one,
   when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.
   Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear.
   for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.

3 The days are surely coming when we will know at last
   the fullness of God’s presence, God’s promise, come to pass.
   Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land
   and we will be delivered by God’s almighty hand.

Offertory Invitation
Dedication
May our gifts become symbols of our intention to minister with God to satisfy the needs of those whom God loves. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Hymn GTG# 373  O Day of Peace  Jerusalem

373  O Day of Peace

1 O day of peace that dimly shines through all our
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the

D  Em  D  G  D  Bm  F#m

hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to justice, truth, and fierce devour the small; as beasts and cattle calmly

Bm  F#m  Bm  D  E  A  Em

love, delivered from our selfish schemes. May swords of hate graze, a little child shall lead them all. Then enemies

Am  Em  C  G  Am  G

fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release, till by God’s shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord; the hope of

Em  A  D  Bm  G  D  A7  D

grace our warring world shall see Christ’s promised reign of peace. peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude