



Worship Service for November 12, 2023

Prelude	Marshall Davies
Chiming of the Hour	Aimee Broadhurst
Welcome	Pastor Felix Carrión
Centering Moment	Pastor Felix Carrión
*Praise & Worship Songs	Congregation

“Dream God’s Dream”

Dream God’s Dream

Holy Spirit, help us dream

Of a world where there is justice

And where everyone is free

To build and grow and loveAnd to simply have enough

The world will change

When we dream God’s dream

I’m dreaming of a world, where the color of one’s skin

Will mean less than what’s within the person’s heart

A world where water's clean, and where air is safe to
breathe

And every child born has enough to eat

Dream God's Dream

Holy Spirit, help us dream

Of a world where there is justice

And where everyone is free

To build and grow and love And to simply have enough

The world will change

I'm dreaming of the call God is offering to me

How to use my energy and my best gifts

To do the work of Christ—to say God, please use my life

To spread your healing Love and to live your Truth

Dream God's Dream

Holy Spirit, help us dream

Of a world where there is justice

And where everyone is free

To build and grow and love And to simply have enough

The world will change

I'm dreaming of the way that I want my life to go
I've got hopes and I've got goals I'd like to meet
I'm reaching for the stars, but I won't forget the scars
Of Christ who died to show that the Dream's for all

Dream God's Dream

Holy Spirit, help us dream

Of a world where there is justice

And where everyone is free

To build and grow and love And to simply have enough

The world will change

Announcements

Aimee Broadhurst

Call to Worship

Aimee Broadhurst

LEADER: On our pilgrimage of life and faith, we do
not walk alone. God is with us! We walk with
each other!

**ALL: We remember all those who taught us the
way of stewardship – the witnesses whose**

**example burns bright in our memory and
inspires our commitments.**

LEADER: God of grace, by whose love the world
exists –

**ALL: show us your divine light once again and
reveal to us your glory in all creation.**

Amen.

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH #384

“For the Faithful Who Have Answered Your Call”

For the faithful who have answered when they heard your
call to serve,
for the many ways you led them,
testing will and stretching faith,
For their work and their witness as they strove against the
odds, for their courage and stewardship,
we give thanks and praise, O God.

Many minds have glimpsed the promise;
many hearts have yearned to see;

many souls have heard you calling us to greater liberty.
Some have fallen in the struggle;
others still are pressing on.
You are not ashamed to love us;
we give thanks and praise, O God.

For this cloud of faithful witness,
for the common life we share,
for the work of peace and justice,
for the gospel that we bear,
For the vision that our homeland is your love -
deep, high, and broad for the different roads we travel,
we give thanks and praise, O God.

Gathering Prayer

Aimee Broadhurst

ALL: Precious One, thank you for drawing us into this sacred and safe place that we call our spiritual home. Inspire us with the lives of those who came before us. May we continue here as trustworthy stewards tending to our inheritance of faith. May we join our gifts and

giving with their gifts and giving. May we set an example of stewardship as they did. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Biblical Witness

Aimee Broadhurst

Acts 2:43-47

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day God added to their

Contemporary Witness

Pastor Felix

Faith+Lead

A Website Resource

I am more and more convinced
every day
that the world is spinning faster;
do you feel it?

There are a million and one
things that pull on my attention,
that distract and discourage;
so in the fast moving blur of it all
my friend tells me to take a deep breath.

My friend tells me to remember who I am.

My gut tells me there is something more here,
and they are right. They are all right.

So on Sundays, I reorient myself.

I pull prayers from my pockets and give them to God,
because fear cannot stand when it's standing in the light.

I pull money from my pockets and give it to God
because cynicism cannot grow when it is met with
hopeful action.

I pull doubt from my pockets and give it to God
because doubt met with love cannot stay where it
started.

And bit by bit, I move to holy ground.
The world is spinning slower now.
This ritual of giving reorients me,
in an off-kilter world, it helps me see.
I give and am returned to the center of me,
to the center of God, to a place that is free.
Thanks be to God for the reorienting.
Thanks be to God, again, on repeat.

- Sarah Speed

Reflection

Pastor Felix

“Grow: Gratitude, Gifts, Giving”

Special Music

Choir

“Blessings”

We pray for blessings.

We pray for peace, comfort for family, protection while we sleep.

We pray for healing, for prosperity.

We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering.

And all the while, You hear each spoken need, yet love us
way too much to give us lesser things.

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops?
What if your healing comes through tears?

What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to
know You're near?

What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear, and we cry in anger
when we cannot feel You near.

We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love, as if every
promise from Your Word is not enough.

And all the while, You hear each desperate plea, and long
that we'd have faith to believe.

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops?
What if your healing comes through tears?

What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?

What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

When friends betray us, When darkness seems to win, we know the pain reminds this heart that this is not, this is not our home! This is not our home!

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops?

What if your healing comes through tears?

What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?

What if my greatest disappointments, or the aching of this life is a revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?

What if trials of this life, the rain, the storms, the hardest nights, are Your mercies in disguise?

Pastoral Prayer with Joys & Concerns

Pastor Felix Carrión

Invitation to Offering

Aimee Broadhurst

United Campus Ministry - Greater Houston

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

* Doxology

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Aimee Broadhurst

ALL: Giver of life and all good gifts, you call us to be stewards of your bounty and caretakers of creation.

Empower us to always receive and use the gifts from your hands with an awareness of and a commitment to generosity. Bless now these gifts we offer, and may these gifts transcend the limits of time and space to reach all in need.

Amen.

***Hymn**

TNCH # 565 “God’s, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

vs. 1 & 4

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
Nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, death’s
shattered door;
Gifted by you, we turn to you offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

Lend your joy to all our giving,
let it light our pilgrim way;
From the night of anxious keeping,
loose us into generous day.
Then when years on earth are over,
and we’ve lived our human span,
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming,
all our stewardship began.

Benediction

Pastor Felix Carrión

***Song of Parting**

Congregation

Sing! #191 "Give Us Vision"

I have one pray'r.

Let me know you are there.

I have one goal

to feel your love in my soul.

Give us vision that we may see
our true identity.

Give us power that we may do,

Your will in all things.

God, let us remember You.

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Aimee Broadhurst

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Mark Vines

Projector: Mary Lowell

Pastor Felix Carrión

Designated Pastor

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