

Worship Service for October 15, 2023

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Marshall Davies

Pam Laham

Pastor Felix Carrión

Pastor Felix Carrión

Centering Moment

*Praise & Worship Songs

Congregation

"Here In This Place"

Holy One, may your presence here open our minds,

may your Spirit among us help us to find

you are rising up now like a fountain of grace

from the holy ground

here in this place,

here in this place.

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty the whole universe speaks of your glory from the holy ground here in this place, here in this place.

Announcements

Call to Worship

LEADER: Rejoice, Jesus is in our midst.

ALL: To know and affirm this truth is to be blessed.

LEADER: Be glad, friends, blessings abound here in this place.

ALL: We are set free from the pursuit of all that does not satisfy our needs and longings. Leader: Sing for joy, one and all.

ALL: God meets us here and revives us. Thanks be to God!

*Praise & Worship Song

Congregation

TNCH #321, "Break Now the Bread of Life"

Break now the bread of life,

Jesus, to me, as you once

broke the loaves beside the sea;

Beyond the sacred page

Pam Laham

Pam Laham

I seek you, God;

my spirit yearns for you, O Living Word.

Bless now the truth, dear One, to me, to me, as you once blessed the bread by Galilee; Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall, and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Gathering Prayer

Pam Laham

ALL: Loving God, you are our Creator and Sustainer. When you open your hands, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living being. And so we look to you whenever we are in need, trusting in your love and your abundant goodness. God we praise you for the many and varied gifts in our lives. Fill us now with your love and compassion so that we would willingly share our gifts with those who

are in need. We pray in the name of the Holy One, who blesses one and all. Amen.

Biblical Witness

Pastor Felix

Matthew 9:35 - 38

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the God of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest.'

1 Peter 3:8 & 9

"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, compassion for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind...It is for this that you were called."

Contemporary Witness

Pam Laham

The Joy of Living: Unlocking the Secret and Science of Happiness

"We don't even have to look so far and wide to find suffering. We can see it all around us: in coworkers going through the pain of divorce; in relatives coping with physical or mental illness; in friends who've lost their jobs; and in hundreds of animals put to death every day because they're unwanted, lost, or abandoned.

If you really want to see how active a compassionate mind can be, here's a very simple exercise that probably won't take more than five minutes of your time. Sit down with a pen and paper and make a list of ten problems that you'd like to see solved. It doesn't matter whether they're global problems or issues close to home. You don't have to come up with solutions. Just write the list."

Reflection

"The Community of Compassion"

Special Music

"I Carry You In My Heart"

I carry you in my heart;

I carry you in my heart.

For your light and love made my soul to sing

like the quiet winter warms to spring.

And I carry your heart in with mine;

I carry your heart with mine.

I thank my God for every thought of you.

I carry you in my heart;

I carry you in my heart.

You are part of God's perfect mystery,

for the way you live helps me to see.

And I carry your heart with mine.

I carry your heart with mine.

I thank my God for every thought of you.

And this is the root of the root,

and this is the bud of the bud,

and the sky of the sky, of a tree called life,

which grows and grows.

Because of you my heart can love still more.

I carry you in my heart (I thank my God for you); I carry you in my heart (I thank my God for you). For your light and love made my soul to sing; Like the quiet winter warms to spring.

And I carry your heart with mine;

I carry your heart with mine.

I thank my God for every thought of you.

And because of you my heart can love still more (still more).

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Felix Carrión Terri Sachnik Invitation to Offering Lazarus House **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** Pam I aham ALL: O Holy One, giver of life and source of

ALL: O Holy One, giver of life and source of freedom, I know that all I have received is from your hand. You call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Empower us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Bless now these

gifts we bring and may they be a blessing to all. Amen.

*Praise & Worship Song

Sing! #89 "Ground and Source of All that Is" vs. 1, 2 & 5 Ground and source of all that is, one that anchors all our roots, Being of all ways and forms, deepest home and final truth.

We live and move in you. We live and move in you.

Lover of ten thousand names, holy presence all have known, Beauty ever welcoming mystery to stir the soul.

We live and move in you. We live and move in you. Call to kindness, call to serve, freedom for our chosen course, Guide and friend for all who dream, nourished by our ground and source.

We live and move in you. We live and move in you.

Benediction

*Song of Parting

Pastor Felix Carrión

Congregation

TFWS # 2279 "Trees of the Field"

You shall go out with joy

And be led forth with peace;

The mountains and the hills

Will break forth before you.

There'll be shouts of joy

And all the trees of the field

Will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field

Will clap their hands;

The trees of the field

Will clap their hands;

The trees of the field

Will clap their hands

While you go out with joy.

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Pam Laham Sound: Mary Davis Video: Amie and Shelby-Mak Friday Projector: Mary Lowell Pastor Felix Carrión Designated Pastor Plymouth United Church (UCC) 5927 Louetta Road, Spring, Texas 77379 pastor@plymouthunited.org

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