

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Worship Service May 2, 2021

Welcome | Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

One: Sing praises to God on high, for glorious are God's works.

All: Sing praises to the ends of the earth.

One: Shout and sing for joy, O people of God, for great is the Holy One in our midst,

All: blessed is the One who comes to dwell among us.

One: Come! Let us worship God, tender and just.

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me

Prayer of Confession | Assurance of Pardon | Passing of the Peace

Grace So

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess our sins, trusting your goodness and great love. From the "smaller" sins to the "bigger" sins, to those we cannot confess publicly—we bring all of them before Christ, who shed his blood for us. Lord, we ask for forgiveness for not trusting you and for not trusting each other. Help us to restore trust with you again, and with our neighbors, in all of the circumstances that we face.

Lord, we have indulged in the affluence with which you have blessed us, and we find it hard to share our possessions with our neighbors who are experiencing poverty and discrimination.

Winter has passed, and spring has come, and yet the situation of our neighbors has not bloomed like the flowers in the fields.

Lord, help us to break away from the sin of enjoying your grace and gratitude only amongst ourselves, and allow us to share your warmth with others so that they can also blossom in you.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Those who love me, I will deliver;

I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble,

I will rescue them and honor them.

With long life I will satisfy them,

and show them my salvation.

Friends, believe the good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

Spirit of the Living God

Scripture — Acts 8:26-40

Sermon — Swept Away

Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga

Testimony

Marta Dragos

COMMUNION

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine, which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord

By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord

In your service, Lord defend us, in our hearts keep watch and ward,
in the world to which you send us, let your kingdom come, O Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving | Lord's Prayer | Affirmation of Faith | Call to Give
Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou and thou only, first in my heart
High king of heaven, my treasure thou art

High king of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell