

Choral Anthem: "When We Love"

Elaine Hagenberg

The towering tree spreads his greening canopy
—A veil between the soil and sky—
Not in selfish vanity,
But the gentle thrush to shade and shelter.

So it is with love.

For when we love,
Simply love,
Even as we are loved,
Our weary world can be transformed.

The busy thrush builds her nest below
—A fortnight's work to weave and set—
Not for herself alone,
But her tender brood to shield and cherish.
And so it is with love.

For when we love,
Simply love,
Even as we are loved,
Our weary world can be transformed
Into the Kingdom of God!

--Charles Anthony Silvestri

We Are Sent with God's Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Alleluia, Alleluia"

LUYH 958

Postlude: "We're Marching to Zion"

Gordon Young

Worship Participants

Pastor: Joel Kok ♦ Organ/Piano: Lois Vander Zee ♦ Worship Leader: Rebecca DeVries
Dordt University Concert Choir ♦ Director: Ryan Smit
Sound: Eric Rowe ♦ Projection: John Kok ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

Ordinary Time

September 15, 2019



Revelation 3:5-6

The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

*Ordinary time refers to the Sundays between Pentecost and Advent, a season in the liturgical year of growth in the life of the church.

God Gathers Us for Worship

Prelude: "All Glory Be to God on High" M. Reger, G. Bohm

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
German Chorale, arr. F. Melius Christiansen

*Opening Song: "God Himself Is with Us" LUYH 565

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Song of Praise: "Ten Thousand Reasons" LUYH 559:1,3

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 51:10-12)

Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.**

**Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.**

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon: I Peter 2:24 p.1889

Song of Thanksgiving: "When Peace Like a River" LUYH 451:1,3,4

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Blessing: "Open Our Eyes"

***Open up our ears to listen. Open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding. Grow it up like the tallest tree.***

Words & Music: Sandra McCracken, © 2014 Drink Your Tea Music

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Revelation 3:1-6 p.1916

Sermon: "The Book of Jesus" Rev. Joel Kok

*Song of Response: "We Know that Christ Is Raised" LUYH 795

*We Profess Our Faith: The Apostles' Creed LUYH 783A

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the Missions Fund which enables us to focus on mission efforts both locally and in other countries.

Choral Offertory: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

George N. Allen, arr. Roy Ringwald

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for Each Other

We Dedicate Ourselves to Holy Living

Prayer of Dedication LUYH 860