Lancaster Theological Seminary

Service of Word and Sacrament

October 15, 2022

Assembly Bulletin



"Then he said to him, 'Rise and go; your faith has made you well.'"

~ Luke 17:19 (NRSV)



Dr. Joseph Varon comforts a COVID-19 patient. How have we modeled compassion towards those whose circumstances are different from ours? How have we shown gratitude?

Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG "CUAN GRANDE ES DIOS (HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD)" CHRIS TOMLIN

[See pages 7-8]

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord comes to us this day. Are you ready?

We are ready!

The Lord challenges us to be in ministries of peace and hope. Are you ready?

We are ready!

Let us praise God, who calls us to serve God by helping others.

Praise be to God, who has given us hope and peace. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"JESUS CHRIST IS WAITING" VS. 1, 2, 3

[See page 9]

*Confession & Words of Assurance

Let us pray. Compassionate God, we confess that we too often ignore that which is around us. We are so focused on what we have to do and who we have to see, that we pass by those who are suffering.

We choose to turn away. We ignore those begging for what they need to live.

We neglect those who are in need of healing. We disregard our sisters and brothers who are oppressed by systems of our own creation.

Forgive us our willful ignorance, O God. Break through the walls that we have erected to keep us safe and secure. Open our eyes to those who are in pain.

Open our ears to their cries of injustice. Compel us to change the systems that imprison so many, so that your children might live in freedom. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

(Silent Confession - pause for 3 deep breaths)

Our God, who is faithful and just, sees us as we are in all our sinfulness. Our God who is full of grace and glory, forgives us our sin and restores us. Our God, who breathed into us, gives us new life through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

STUDENT MINISTER

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a way comfortable to you and your neighbor, such as hand on heart, "namaste" hands, bow, peace sign, or a non-contact way of your own choosing.

La paz sea contigo. Y también contigo!

Service of the Word

POEM "WHEN GIVING IS ALL WE HAVE"

ALBERTO RIOS

This poem expresses the power and complexity of gift giving, such as Jesus' gift of healing and the healed man's gift of appreciation in the scripture.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 17:11-19

NRSV

SERMON

DEACONESS MYKA KENNEDY STEPHENS

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

God of all peoples and nations,

We praise you for your creativity made manifest in the gifts of tribes, ethnicities and cultures across the world. Each one bears your mark of goodness and grace.

We especially praise you and thank you for your children with Hispanic heritage – the descendants of Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America.

We find you in the beauty of their art, the joy of their song and their commitment to la comunidad.

We hear you in their call for a more just world – one of solidarity and liberation. We know you better because of the witness of their faith, may their faith and ours be bound together by your love in convivimiento — that spirit of unity, respect and empathy for which there is no substitute.

Keep us all - and especially those with Hispanic heritage - in your care, hold us in your love and make us fierce advocates and allies for welcome, inclusion and the common good. Amen.

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY SONG INSTRUMENTAL

*THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This is not the table of the Church.

This is the table of the Lord.

Come!

Not because I invite you,

It is the Lord...

And it is God's will that all who want God should meet God here.

All over the world,

All are welcome to the celebration! Come!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks and praise to our loving and gracious God. We give you thanks for the diverse humanity and our complexity of color and culture, called into oneness of being through Christ.

Using many tongues we say with one voice:

Holy, holy, santo, santo, santo. Lord of power and might, Los cielos y tierra están llenos de tu gloria, hosanna in the highest. We thank you for your gift of Jesus, who came to us and live as one of us and died for us. Pour out your Spirit upon us, and upon these our gifts of bread and the fruit of the vine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same manner, he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of many. Drink of it, all of you.

Let us receive the gifts of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

Invitation to the Table

We have a few COVID related options for those who wish to partake. If you wish to receive from the ministers, take an empty eco-friendly cup from the stack on the aisle table and approach the minister, who will place a piece of bread in your open hand. All bread is gluten free.

Or you may take one of the sealed celebration cups with the wafer on top and juice beneath; hold them out to the minister for a blessing. A minister will pour grape juice into your cup. Eat, drink, and dispose of the cup in the waste baskets at the side aisles as you return to your seat.

If you are unable to come forward, please signal the ministers and we will come to you at your seat. Those who prefer not to partake in Communion are invited to a different kind of divine encounter through an interfaith prayer of blessing. If this is your preference, we invite you to meet the minister at the baptismal font.

COMMUNION SONG

"Somos Pueblo que Camina"

NCH 340

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

*Prayer after Communion

PRESIDER

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. One body, we are one in Christ!

Send us, Lord, in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world, and continue forever in the risen life, In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord! Amen.

*CLOSING SONG "JESUS CHRIST IS WAITING" VS. 3, 4, 5

[See page 9]

*BENEDICTION

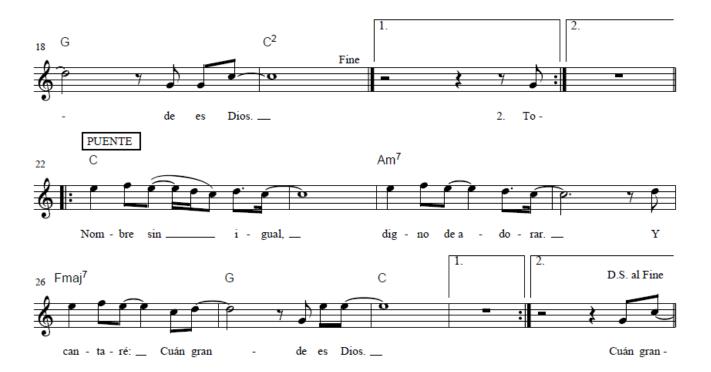
SENDING & POSTLUDE

"What matters in life is not what happens to you, but what you remember and how you remember it." -Gabriel García Márquez

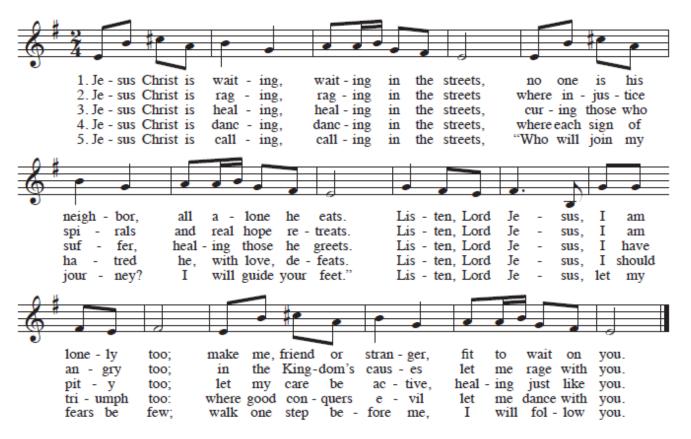
Cuán Grande Es Dios

Traducido por Francis Castañeda, Mario Ríos, Mark Young y Coalo Zamorano Letra y Música por Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves y Ed Cash





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Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 and Graham Maule, b. 1958; © 1988, WGRG, c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Tune: NOEL NOUVELET; French carol

Cover Art: Getty. 2020. https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/doctor-comforts-distraught-coronavirus-patient-005958076.html

Centering Song: Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves © 2004 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Wondrously Made Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

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Communion Song: Richy Clark © 2000 Clark, Richy (Admin. by Watershed Music Group (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI License # 2676632 https://youtu.be/NyWNuchVUfl

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*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

Equilla Curry, Stephanie Davis '20, Rev. Liz Fulmer '20, Chynaah Maryoung-Cooke '21, Stephanie Oelrich, Cam Richesson, Max Staley, Beth Taylor, and Rev. Dr. Kellie Turner '18. Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams, Advisor

THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.

To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.

To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.