



Sunday, August 1, 2021

Week 4: "Beguiled by Beauty" Worship Series
"Abyss, Mystery, and Wonder."

For those living a contemplative life, a path of unknowing is to both savor what the senses can take in, but also wonder at the mystery of unfathomable depths of even a single atom; there is a "sweetness of longing and of tasting in which one ceases to praise and becomes pure praise, an unending chant to the divine goodness."

Gathering Music

Welcome, Check In and Prayer Requests

Silent Centering

You are invited to a moment of quiet rest, a time of slowing the pace of your body and mind so that the spirit can settle.

Call to Worship

Leader: Holy One, pause us for this moment, bear us up in this time,

People: and hold us for eternity.

Leader: We revel in your wondrous works.

People: We grasp for adequate ways to sing our praise and to be lost in your beauty.

Leader: As we begin this time of worship today, let us sing and praise and become lost in your beauty; and, let all the people say,

People: Amen.

Blessing our Neighbors *Comment in the chat/comments--let us know you're here!*

Faith for Kids

Prayers of the People

Pastor's Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Worship Song

God's Word to Us

Psalm 135: 1-3; 13-21 (Inclusive Bible)

Message

Giving of Ourselves and Our Gifts

Offering

***Prayer of Dedication (all joining)** *God of abundance, when there doesn't seem to be enough, show us how your people take care of each other. When we fear to share what we have, show us the grace of receiving an unexpected gift. When we hang on tight for later just in case, show us that you are in this very moment. In these ways, teach us to give, to share, to offer ourselves for your kingdom work. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Communion Song

One Bread One Body

Invitation to Holy Communion *(served inside at 10:30am) (drive-up from 10:30-11am)*

We are joined together in God's love, both inside and outside of the walls of a church building. On this day, we have come together not only to **go** to church; we are reminded to **be** the church and to let the Holy Spirit fill and guide us on our way!

Blessing and Sending Out

This series invites us to integrate contemplative practices into our daily lives as a way of opening to the Divine in deeper ways, thereby training our spirits for compassion in all things. This week's ritual action is a time of feeling warmed by God's love. Set a reminder to spend some time "warmed" by sitting/walking in the sun, or sit in a chair or lay while wrapped and cradled in a soft blanket. As you do so, allow your mind to slow, your heart to open, your eyes to drink in your surroundings. You may want to put a note nearby, "Your very essence is warmed by the presence of divine love. Be reminded to offer that warmth to others... for the beauty of the earth."

***Community Blessing Song**

Worship has ended...now the service begins!

Next Sunday, August 8th is Week 5 of Beguiled by Beauty:

The Beauty of a World without a "Why."

Scripture for Worship

Psalm 135:1-3; 13-21 (Inclusive Bible)

Alleluia! Praise the Name of YHWH— sing praise, you who serve the Most High,

who stand in the house of YHWH, in the courts of God's house!

Alleluia! God is good!

Sing praises to God's name because it is beautiful!

Psalm 135:1-3; 13-21 NRSV

Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord, throughout all ages.¹⁴ For the Lord will vindicate his people, and have compassion on his servants.

¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

¹⁶ They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see;

¹⁷ they have ears, but they do not hear, and there is no breath in their mouths.

¹⁸ Those who make them and all who trust them shall become like them.

¹⁹ O house of Israel, bless the Lord! O house of Aaron, bless the Lord!

²⁰ O house of Levi, bless the Lord! You that fear the Lord, bless the Lord!

²¹ Blessed be the Lord from Zion, he who resides in Jerusalem. *Praise the Lord!*