



## The Celebration of Worship

September 20, 2020 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson  
Pastoral Residents: Rola Al Ashkar  
Veronica Gould

### Special Video

Thanks to the contributors and to Jonathan Sakakibara for the video.

### Welcome

*Please join in lighting a candle at home.*

### Introit

**All: Make us one, Lord, make us one. Holy Spirit make us one. Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.**

### Call to Worship

Leader: From the deserts of our lives we call upon God.

**Congregation: God hears our complaints and answers us.**

Leader: Just as God provided food to God's people in the desert, God provides to us today.

**Congregation: And so we gather in the name of the One who gives life and good gifts.**

Leader: We seek God's grace and delight in God's favor over our lives.

**All: Let us praise and give thanks to God. Amen.**

### Gathering Hymn

"As the Deer"

### Confession and Assurance of God's Grace

**All: Forgiving Lord, we are such greedy and jealous people. We want to make sure that we get what we deserve, that we are always treated fairly. Yet we complain when You treat others, who have not worked as hard or been as faithful, with such love. Forgive us, when we have been narrow-minded about Your love. Heal and restore us. Help us reach out with love and hope to others in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Leader: Blessings are showered on all who seek God. Come and rejoice! God has given you such love and mercy. Amen.

### Response to God's Forgiveness

**Glory be to Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.**

### Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

### Discovery Table

Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson

### Hymn of Grace

"Come And Fill Our Hearts"

### Unison Prayer Of Guidance

**All: Now may the words of our mouth, the meditation of our hearts, the interpretation of our minds, and the response of our hands be acceptable to You, our Lord and our Redeemer. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

### First Scripture Reading

Exodus 16: 2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because God has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?"

And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against God--what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say

to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for God has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

### Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

### Sermon

Rola Al Ashkar

“Jesus: Fair or Unfair?!”

### Opportunity To Present Offerings & Doxology

*Please enter any prayer requests, joys or concerns, in the comments of the Facebook Live video so we can include you in our prayers.*

**All: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### Prayer of Dedication

Rola Al Ashkar

### Joys & Concerns/Pastoral Prayer

Veronica Gould

### The Lord’s Prayer

**All: Our Parent Who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

### Benediction

Rola Al Ashkar

### Response: “Shalom”

**Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, Kami no mi megumi. (Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, may we be blessed with grace from God.)**

**Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, yuta kani, yuta kani, yuta kani. (Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, abundantly, abundantly, abundantly.)**

### In Appreciation:

Online Greeter  
Flowers

TBD  
Bill & Herning Grissom