



August 22, 2021

# Traditional Service – 8:30 am

## Scripture for Meditation

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you  
out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9)

## Prelude

## Come Just as You Are

(Sabolick/Hayes)

## Welcome and Announcements

## Call to Worship

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all

People: And also with you

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## Opening Hymn

## Be Thou My Vision

#859

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 my great Father; thine own may I be,  
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
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.

## Psalm Response

## Psalm 1

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,  
**But whose delight is in the law of the LORD,**

**and who meditates on his law day and night.**  
That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
**And whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.**  
Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff that the wind blows away.  
**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**  
For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

We confess, O God, that we have neglected the communal character of our faith in Christ. In our desire to have a personal faith, we have reduced it to a private encounter with you. We focus on ourselves rather than joyfully commit to the community of faith. We know we belong to the Body of Christ, but we end up acting independently. Forgive us for isolating ourselves from the Family of Faith. Give us a deep sense of responsibility for each other. Give us a deep sense of belonging to the Church and to one another. Help us to open ourselves up to Christian friendship and fellowship by loving one another. In Jesus Name. Amen.

*(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News:

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**Response**

**Glory Be to the Father**

**#961**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World without end. Amen, Amen.

**Anthem**

**The Call**

*(Ralph Vaughan Williams)*

**Scripture Reading**

**John 15:12-17**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

**Together: Creating Christian Community**

## Offertory

## Interlude VI

(Mark Hayes)

(Offerings are received weekly via mail and online giving at <https://villagechurchnorthbrook.org/give/>. Those attending live worship can leave their donations in the offering plates in the Narthex.)

## Doxology

## Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

## Blessing of the Backpacks

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## Closing Hymn

## Blest Be the Tie that Binds

(verses 1-3, 6)

**#257**

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin, we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

## Benediction

## Postlude

## Sweet By and By

(Webster/Raney)

# Contemporary Service - 10:00 am

## Scripture for Meditation

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God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you  
out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9)

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Call to Worship

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## Praise and Prayer

### King of Kings

CCLI #7127647 | Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, and Scott Ligertwood  
2018 Hillsong Music Publishing

### There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do

CCLI #7141227 | Brandon Lake, Jonathan Smith, and Kristian Stanfill  
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## Prayer of Confession

## Announcements

## Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

## Offering

### Spirit of the Living God

CCLI #7035191 | Jacob Sooter and Mia Fieldes  
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(Offerings are received weekly via mail and online giving at  
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## Scripture Reading

### John 15:12-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**                      **Together: Creating Christian Community**

**Minute for Ministry**                      **Blessing of the Backpacks**

**Closing Song**                      **The Blessing**  
CCLI #7147007 | Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, and Steven Furtick  
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**Blessing**

**Postlude**

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Welcome and Spencer	Rev. Dr. Spencer Lundgaard
Liturgist	Rev. Greg Buell
Scripture Reader	Sherry Maloney (8:30)
	Elaine Holmquist (10:00)
Prayers of the People	Lois Morris (10:00)
Director of Music	Ruth G. Heald
Pianist (8:30)	Sharon Peterson
Soloist (8:30)	Damon Cole
Pianist (10:00)	Jim Peterson
Worship Band (10:00)	Luke Stoner, guitar; Christine Cheung, synthesizer
	Susan Mathein and Greg Dill, vocals
Audio/Visual Team	Ed Burton, Kyle Johnston, Emily Taylor

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# Reflection Questions

## Connecting with One Another

What does it mean to be a good friend to someone?

What is the difference between a Christian friend and someone else?

## Listening and Acting

Please use this guide to reflect upon what is mentioned in the sermon and how the Holy Spirit might be asking you to respond this week.

1. Share or write about what impacted you most about the sermon this week.
2. What was the initial challenge in the Bible that needed to be solved?
3. Where does the idea of community come from in the Bible?
4. For many people in the world today, a sense of loneliness continues to increase due to varying reasons. What for you, was a time when you felt like you were connected to a deep community and fellowship?
5. What are the characteristics of Christian community mentioned in the sermon today?
6. What kind of friendships are you building today?
7. Where are you involved in Christian community on a regular basis?

## Talking with God

As you pray for your friends, community, and the world, spend a few moments lifting up those friends who encourage you as a disciple. If you can't think of any, pray that God would introduce you to them. Pray for the needs of the world and the church.