



Central's mission:
Love God, love others, and serve the world

June 21, 2020
Third Sunday after Pentecost

Musical Gift

Sing and Rejoice

Smith

Call to Worship

Dorothy Ann Webster

What does the Lord require of you?

To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

What does God command of us?

**To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.

Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.

**Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

*~ written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH.
She blogs at <http://sermonizing.wordpress.com/>*

Hymn #77 “How Great Thou Art”

Hine

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;
3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin;
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God how great thou art!

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

Mark Haines

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**universal*

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer —

Mark Haines

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

Dorothy Ann Webster

Central Reflection

Garrison Sickles

Children's Message

Debbie Looney

Hymn #130 “God Will Take Care of You”

Martin

1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you;
Beneath his wings of love abide, God will take care of you.
**God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.**
2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you.
3. All you may need he will provide, God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you.
4. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon his breast, God will take care of you.

Bible Reading — Genesis 22:1-14

Dorothy Ann Webster

—[Prayer]

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message — “Tested”

Fred Webster

Hymn #534 "Be Still, My Soul"

von Schlegel

1. Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide; in every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
2. Be still, my soul your God will undertake to guide the future, as in ages past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.
3. Be still my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Sending Forth

Fred Webster

God of peace and mercy, send us into your world with confident joy.
Help us to reach out to others and care for them as you always care for us. Amen.

Musical Gift

Living for Christ

Smith

Bible Reading for June 28

Ephesians 1:17-23 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Discussion Questions

• *We often hear the phrase, "the gift that keeps on giving." What, in your experience, would qualify as such a gift? • What "gifts that keep on giving" does Paul pray the church in Ephesus will receive? • Where do such gifts originate?*



Love GOD



Love OTHERS



SERVE the World



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