

# Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

## \*Celebration of Holy Communion

One: God be with you.                      **Many: And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.                **Many: We lift them up to God.**  
One: Let us give thanks to God.        **Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise**

## \*Creation's Praise

*Sanctus (Patriquin)*

*Holy holy holy, God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory:  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes, who comes in God's name.  
Hosanna in the high – est!*

*(Please be seated)*

## Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**  
The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

## Thy Kin-dom Come

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

*Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

## \*Hymn of Sending

*The Servant Song*  
(Green Gather Hymnal No.669)

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

*This Little Light of Mine*  
Peter Black

## Prelude

*We Are Travelers On a Journey*  
Peter Black

*Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship*

## Welcome & Announcements

## Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

## Introit

*Love and Justice*

*Love and Justice, Peace and Power, show us how to live each hour.  
Raise us up, and set us free, show us how to live and be.  
Tell your neighbors, tell your friends, here's a place hope never ends.  
Love and Justice, Peace and Power, God is with us in this hour.  
God is with us in this hour, God is with us in this hour,  
God is with us in this hour.*

## Call to Worship

Psalm 104

One: Bless God, O my soul.  
**Many: O God, my God, you are very great.**  
One: You are clothed with honor and majesty.  
**Many: You are wrapped in Light, as with a garment.**  
One: You stretch out the heavens like a tent.  
**Many: You set the beams of your chambers on the waters.**  
One: You make the clouds your chariot.  
**Many: You ride on the wings of the wind.**  
One: You make the winds your messengers.  
**Many: Fire and flame are your ministers.**  
One: O God, how manifold are your works!  
**Many: Bless God, O my soul. Praise be to God!**

## \*Opening Hymn

*I Am For You*  
(Green Gather Hymnal No.704)

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\* = Stand if you wish to, and are able  
**Congregational response in bold**

## Unison Prayer

Loving God, today I express the Christ Spirit of service. The life of Jesus was a life of service. From the very beginning, his desire was to serve others. He was never too weary or too busy to answer any call for help that came to him. He gave freely of his time, his understanding, and his wisdom. Help me this day to see the countless ways that I can be of service. Open my mind and my eyes to these opportunities to serve. I know that a life of service is a life of fullness, richness, and happiness. As I serve You in every word and deed, may I hear Your loving commendation: "*Well done, my good and faithful servant.*" Amen.

## Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

## \*Passing the Peace

*Spirit, Fill Me*

*Spirit come and fill me, fill me with your peace, fill me with your joy and your love.*

*Spirit come and show me, show me how to care, show me how to share your light.*

*Help me give my hand to those in need, let my heart be open to receive.*

*When we share your love, we can work together to heal this broken world.*

*Spirit come and fill us, fill us with your peace, fill us with your joy and your love,*

*Spirit come and show us, show us how to care, show us how to share your light.*

## Words of Integration & Guidance

Richard Rohr

Jesus is very patient with his disciples, which is good news for all of us. Like the apostles, we also have a hard time understanding the deep mystery that the way up is the way down. In today's Gospel story, Jesus calls the twelve apostles around him, and explains, "Anyone who wants to be the most important has to be the least important—the servant of all the others." Just like the Twelve, we usually want to be on top, but Jesus calls us to be free and happy at the bottom. We all want to be the boss, but Jesus tells us to be servants. In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "You know how the so-called rulers of nations like to lord it over the people? And how those at the top like to make their authority felt? Well, with you it has to be different. If you want to be important, serve others. The son of man himself did not come to be served but to serve, to give his life so that everyone might be set free." Jesus offered the world a new pattern of power and leadership, which few in church or state have ever really agreed with. If only the Church had shared Jesus' bias toward the bottom the past two thousand years! If only we had seriously believed him, how much sooner we would have seen the coming of peace and justice on this earth. If only we had truly listened to the Gospel, how differently Western history would have unfolded. Instead, we have made easy and happy friends with power, prestige, perks, and possessions—even in the name of God and the Church.

## Great Service

### The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Hebrews 5:1-10

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

### The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:35-45

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Homily

*"Upside Down Kingdom"*

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

### Offering & Offertory

*"Lifesong"*

Stan Greene and Peter Black

Songwriter: Mark Hall

## Serve One Another

### Joys & Concerns/ Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God! **Many: Alleluia!**

One: O God, **Many: Hear our prayer.**

### \*Doxology

*Give Thanks to the Lord*

*Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good and God's mercy shall endure.*

*For God alone has done marv'lous things, give thanks unto the Lord.*

*God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.*

*God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song! Give thanks unto our God.*