

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

June 14, 2020

Refugee Awareness Sunday



Preparation

You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10:19

Prelude

Children of the Heavenly Father
(Swedish Folk Tune)

Arr. Alice Jordan

Greeting

Call to Worship:

One: From many places and circumstances, together we worship God;

All: **With hearts full of gratitude for the beauty of God's creation;**

One: Hearts full of grace from the redeeming work of Jesus Christ;

All: **Hearts full of longing for justice in the world.**

One: We humbly seek hearts full of courage, to work tirelessly for the rights of all people;

All: **Hearts full of generosity, that we may freely share those in need;**

One: Hearts full of compassion, to recognize the possibilities within every human being;

All: **Hearts full of wisdom, guided by the Spirit, as we seek to live God's dream.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: God beyond borders, we remember that all of humanity is made in your image. We thank You for the opportunity to know you more fully through another, for the friendship of strangers, and the richness of other cultures.

All: **Blessed are You, God beyond borders.**

One: But if we have overlooked the exiles in our midst, heightened their exclusion by our indifference, given our permission for a climate of fear and tolerated a culture of violence,

All: **Have mercy on us.**

(Silent prayers of confession)

All: **God who takes side with justice. Confront our prejudice, stretch our narrowness, sift out our laws and our lives, with the penetrating insight of Your Spirit, until we embody your desire. Amen**

The Promise of the Gospel

Special Music

All Thing Bright and Beautiful
Maria Schoon, Connor Koppin

[arr. John Rutter]

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon

Welcoming Christ Among Us
Rev. Alice Fleming Townley
Judi Harris, Director of Refugee Services, St. Vincent Catholic Charities
Paula Frantz, Director of the Global Institute of Lansing

Minute for Mission

Arbab Ibrahim
Graduate of the Global Institute of Lansing

Hymn #754 *Help Us Accept Each Other* vs. 1-4 [Baronita]

The Offering

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

Hymn #749 *Come! Live in the Light!* (vs. 1-3) [We Are Called]

Benediction

Postlude *Hornpipe* [George F. Handel]

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Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, Bridge Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Connor Koppin, Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Sue Schnackenberg, CE Director for Youth & Children
Edward Ennen, Sexton