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Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost | November 12th 2023

\*Please stand as you are able

**Welcome and Announcements**

Trinity Chimes

**Prelude** *Alleluia* arr. L. Lamb

The Christ Church Ringers

**\*Call to Worship:**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise,

**All: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations!**

*based on psalm 100*

**\*Hymn of Praise** *144 This Is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

1. This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.  
  
2. This is my Father's world,  
the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world:  
he shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me everywhere.  
  
3. This is my Father's world.  
O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let the earth be glad!

**Opening Prayer:**

**Creator god, who claims us as Your own, we bring our full selves to worship today.  Our happiness and our sorrow, our singing and our crying, our strengths, and our failures - we carry it all.  Your faithfulness endures all, in every season and circumstance of our lives.  Remind us that we are bound to You, as bearers of light, as those who care, as those who follow everywhere You lead, no matter the wait.  Amen.**

*Adapted from a prayer written by Dr. Lisa Haandcock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2023.*

Scripture Lesson Psalm 78:1-7

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings from of old,

things that we have heard and known,

that our ancestors have told us.

We will not hide them from their children;

we will tell to the coming generation

The glorious deeds of the Lord and his might

and the wonders that he has done.

He established a decree in Jacob

and appointed a law in Israel,

which he commanded our ancestors

to teach to their children,

that the next generation might know them,

the children yet unborn,

and rise up and tell them to their children,

so that they should set their hope in God,

and not forget the works of God,

but keep his commandments.

**Music of Preparation** *Jesus and His Love* arr. B. Tucker

The Christ Church Ringers

Given by Sharon & Harold Stites

in memory of their daughter, ANN ELIZABETH

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon The call to be people caring for people

Musical Response and Collection of Pledge Cards

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Confession:

**God of all people, you have called us to share our light, Your light, with the world, to carry the lamps, and even to wait in the dark.  But we are impatient.  We want to know everything now, while being preoccupied with matters of the future and troubles of the past.  But you call us to be present to Your reality in this moment.  Let us tend our resources well, open our eyes to what can be done now, and give us patience to live in the unknowing, and celebrate with us all that we do have to share.  These things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ.  Amen.**

All: God has conquered sin and death forgiving us all

through Love and Grace

Leader: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God, amen!

The Lord’s Prayer

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 forever. Amen

\*Passing of the Peace

Stewardship Moment: Candi Eppley

Invitation Offering

Offertory *To Be God's People* Charles F. Brown

Joe Delapast, solo

\*Doxology 95 *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 host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Sending Hymn 2166 Christ Beside Me BUNESSAN

1. Christ be-side me, Christ before me,

Christ behind me King of my heart;

Christ within me, Christ below me,

Christ above me never to part.

2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,

Christ all around me shield in the strife;

Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,

Christ in my rising light of my life.

3. Christ be-side me, Christ before me,

Christ behind me King of my heart;

Christ within me, Christ below me,

Christ above me never to part

\*Benediction

**Go forth today as people caring for people that in living a life patterned after God’s grace, you may share the hope, joy, forgiveness, and love you receive from God with your**

**neighbors wherever you go!**

Adapted from work by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023.

**Postlude**  *Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him!*

arr. Don Phillips

Liturgist: Lynda Turrentine

Stephen Minister: Georgia Carmichael

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff who made this service possible!

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“ This Is My Father’s World*”*

Words: Maltibie D. Babcock, 1901

“Christ Beside Me”

Words: Scott Wesley Brown

If you have any questions, please call the office: 520.327.1116 or

send us an e-mail: office@ccumtucson.org.

Our Staff contact information

John Neve - Bell Choir Director

[john@ccumtucson.org](mailto:john@ccumtucson.org)

Janet Tolman – Organist

janet@ccumtucson.org

Sinamar Respicio – Choir Director

[choir@ccumtucson.org](mailto:choir@ccumtucson.org)

Mary Beth Buttler – Communications

communications@ccumtucson.org

Candi Eppley – Office Administrator

[office@ccumtucson.org](mailto:office@ccumtucson.org)

Rev. Beth Rambikur

[pastor@ccumtucson.org](mailto:pastor@ccumtucson.org)

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