

August 7, 2022 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Bold Italics indicate the work of the People.

QUIET TIME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Arnold Kenseth (adapted)

The days of the week have stood blue and spacious, holy and tall,
and God is in the midst of them.

Praise the Lord!

Our houses abide. There is food on the table, children still somersault,
And our days brim with the brooks of their laughter.

Neighbor trusts neighbor and God is in the midst of them.

Praise the Lord!

Terror may come and the earth shake
and human folly lay waste the brittle cities.

***Death is an old comrade,
but God is in the midst of all the world.***

All people shall live in God's mercy forever.

Praise the Lord.

Amen!

Amen!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Arnold Kenseth, (adapted)

***O God, we come with need, hope, dream, anger, fear, weariness.
And now we say, this day, we want you with us and in us and around us
and before us. Help us. Fulfill us. Awaken us. Calm us. Refresh us. Love
us. Deep within we know, like we know our hands, that only in you do
the days and nights make sense, come alive, shout joy. Come now long
expected one. Amen.***

*HYMN PH #14 "The God of Abraham Praise"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Arnold Kenseth (adapted)

*(Corporate confession means that we pray for the sins of
all humankind and not just our own.)*

***O God, how shall we present ourselves before you? We are
so often a stiff-necked and contrary people; careful with things,
careless with persons, eager in taking, awkward in giving; quick with
anger, slow with forgiveness; in love with our fears, in fear of our***

***loves; busy with falsehood, idle with truth. By your imponderable
and generous mercy erase our surfaces and deepen us down in the
places of your glory. Through Jesus Christ our Leader and Savior,
Amen.***

Words of Assurance

The Gloria Patri

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

A LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Genesis 29
THE GOSPEL FOR THE MORNING Luke 15: 11-32
A SERMON

*HYMN PH #370 "He Leadeth Me"

PRAYERS FOR THE DAY

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Summer seems to pause just now, dear God,
giving us a moment to pause, too, and give praise for it.

Blackeyed Susans are the peaking of the blossoming of the wildflowers of
summer,
now comes the Goldenrod, fall's first flowering.

The early promises of our gardens have been kept and eaten.
The lettuce is going to seed and the yellow squash going to gold and gourd.
Apples wink in the trees and the relentless green of our tomatoes begins to
mellow toward yellow.

The corn pricks up its ears at the sound of omnivores salivating. . .
The bears and the raccoons and the humans waiting.

And while we wait, we praise you for this summer.
God knows . . . you know . . . we have tried to complain about too much rain
and then it stopped, about the heat and you blew cool.

Our gardens laughed at us as they leaped at the sun
that has now shined day after day, week after week of this, the only summer
they will have,
while we dip into our treasure trove of summers past for comparisons
on which to found our complaints.

It may well be that the sun has shone pretty nearly every weekend,
And the flowers are better than we can ever remember,
but there were years when the blueberries were better.

There!

We found the flaw to fend off the praise that wells up in our hearts .

Just so do we demonstrate and we confess
how well defended we are against the praise
and just how hard you work to undo our defenses.

It is the long, soft, warm evenings that finally undo us in this summer's
pause,
and so many unconnected to brutal days and sleepless nights.

So we are without excuse and we must give you thanks.
How can we pray that, in addition to the summertime,
you would also give us the heart to praise.
And yet we do, in Jesus name .

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Giving
Offertory
*Doxology #514

Prayer of Thanksgiving

In thanks and with gratitude for all that you provide, dear God, and to the service of the world you love so much, we dedicate these gifts and our lives to you in Jesus' name. Amen

COMMUNION

The Invitation

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Gratitude

Arnold Kenseth (adapted)

O Gracious One, you can bid a star to be, turn home the summer robin, unravel the skeins of air, or wrap a world to sleep. You are might and heaven and the other side of dark. You are majesty. And yet you set this table and bid us come and eat. Blessed are you , O God. Our joy shall be in you forever and ever. Amen

*HYMN PH #283 'Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken''

BENEDICTION