

First Reformed Church of Cary

Ninth Sunday after Pentacost

July 17, 2016

Guest Speaker Rachel Taylor
Dr. Loñieta Cornwall, Music Director

Prelude

Congregational Concerns

Gathering Around the Word

Invitation and Call to Worship (based on Colossians 1:15-28):

Lord Jesus Christ, You called us together,
To rejoice in who You are.
And delight in who we are because of You!
We stand amazed in Your presence,
Because, O Lord, You live your life in us!

Hymn of Praise #407

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

Prayer of Confession (adapted from Psalm 15)

Loving God, we often ask you how we can meet you, how we can see your face, how we can approach you, where we can find you. You tell us that you are closer to us than our next breath and that there is nothing we can do to make you love us more or less. But our eyes are not always open to see you. We claim to seek you even as we gossip about others, hurt our friends and neighbors, love the things that you hate, and take advantage of the poor – and those are all actions that blind us to your presence. Forgive us, Lord. Open our eyes to who and to where you are. Teach us to live into the pledges we’ve made to love You and to care for your people. Help us to welcome others the same way you’ve welcomed us.

Assurance of Pardon

As Paul says of Christ in Colossians:

He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he’s there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is he, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross.

Hymn #199

“Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed”

The Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-10a

Meditation:

“God’s Welcome”

Our Response to God

Confession of Faith: The Apostle’s Creed

(Page 12 Hymnal)

Offertory I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth [repeat]
In my mouth, in my mouth....His praise shall continually be in my mouth. [repeat]

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

Intercessory Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Response to Prayer Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There’s just something about that name! Master, Saviour, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain; Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim; Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, But there’s something about that name!

Sending of God's People

Reprise Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.....

We welcome Rachel Taylor, our speaker for today, who is a native of Raleigh but now claims the Walltown neighborhood in Durham as home. She recently graduated from a joint MDiv-MSW program offered by Duke Divinity School and UNC School of Social Work. Rachel currently works at the Center for Child and Family Health as a Home Visitor with Early Head Start. She is an active member at Raleigh Mennonite Church and serves on the board of Anathoth Community Garden.

Mission for July: NC Council of Churches

Consistory Contacts

If you have need of pastoral care or if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to one of the members of the consistory or our Classis Supervisor.

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