

## NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTACOST

July 25, 2021

**PRELUDE** *“The Prayer” By Carole Bayer Sager, David Foster*  
*Arr. Mary McDonald, Joel Raney*

Faye Chen

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP Yin and Yang by Miss Nygma and Raquel Irizarry

Leader: Day and night, push and pull, light and dark.

**All: Two opposing forces that intertwine their destinies**

Leader: Forces that complement one another

**All: Forces that complete one another**

Leader: Forces that don't compete for control

**All: Forces that create a balanced interaction**

Leader: May we learn and live the balance.

**All: Blessed be the gifts you have given us that create the balance of life, Amen.**

### INVOCATION PRAYER (read in unison)

**Giver of Life everlasting lift our spirits this morning with songs of delight and visions that offer a way of seeing, a way of being that allows for our differences and celebrates them in all their splendor, that knows the love and care taken when you created us. And show us the balance that when we shine light upon each other, we ourselves also shine your light.**

**May our words and deeds be pleasing always in your sight, and may we never cease knowing your love and singing your praises all the days of our life. Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN Black Hymnal #84

*“This is the Day”*

*This is the day, this is day that our God has made, that our God has made*

*We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.*

*This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it;*

*This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.*

*This is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again;*

*We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.*

*This is the day Jesus rose again, we will rejoice and be glad in it;*

*This is the day, this the day Jesus rose again.*

*This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came, when the Spirit came;  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day when the Spirit came, we will rejoice, and be in glad in it;  
This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came.*

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Please share your prayers through the Zoom Group Chat found at the bottom of your screen.*

**Let us remember the states in the west that have been ravaged by searing heat, so that the cool breath and cooling waters of God refresh them.**

**MUSICAL AMEN** *“Threefold Amen”*

Faye Chen

### **DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING:**

During this season when we are deeply conscious of the health and safety of our worshipping community, we will not be passing plates for the offering. Instead, we invite you to place your offering today in one of the plates located by the entrance doors of the Church, and we thank you for your generosity and support.

God continue to bless us with gifts that we may share with this church, so it can do gracious and loving works in the world, to lift up the oppressed, clothe the naked and feed the hungry. Amen and Amen!

### **HYMN OF REFLECTION Black Hymnal #207**

*“Just As I Am”*

*Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me,  
And that you called inviting me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

*Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

*Just as I am, you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

*Just as I am, your love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

## **HEARING THE WORD OF**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Ruth 2: 1-7    Corinthians 13: 1-13

Roger Calistro

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

Paul DeCoster

**SERMON REFLECTION:** *"I Am Who I Am"*

Rev. Raquel Irizarry

## **CLOSING HYMN    Black Hymnal #4**

*"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All your works, with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.*

*You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;  
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.*

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.  
Every singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.*

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Raquel Irizarry

**POSTLUDE**    *"Passacaglia By Handel/Halvorsen"*

Faye Chen

Thank you to Kathleen Foster for hosting coffee hour this morning!



**Our guests today are not strangers to us. We are thankful they could join us again!**

**Reverend Raquel Irizarry, *guest minister***

Raquel is a graduate from Union Theological Seminary and Columbia School of Social Work, having received her Master's in Divinity and Clinical Social Work. She is a social consciousness writer, and activist. Both she and her husband, Paul, for the past five years have been feeding the homeless and/or hungry at Port Authority in New York City. Currently she is the Council President for All Souls Bethlehem Church in Brooklyn. She also enjoys singing and doing photography.

**Paul DeCoster, *guest musician***

Paul DeCoster is a classically trained guitarist who has found his musical calling in being a singer/songwriter with Progressive Rock influences. He writes about matters of the heart and spirit, and he is currently working on some new music for release this summer.

---

If you would like to donate flowers for the church on a particular Sunday, please call the church office at (203)389-2119.

Please sign up in the Parish hall to read Scripture and to host the coffee hour.

We need and appreciate your help!

**GUEST MINISTERS SCHEDULED**

August 1 <sup>st</sup> –	Rev. Walter Pitman
August 8 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Walter Pitman
August 15 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Karl Duetzmann
August 22 <sup>nd</sup> –	Rev. Raquel Irizarry
August 29 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Walter Pitman
September 5 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Walter Pitman
September 12 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Hiram Brett
September 19 <sup>th</sup> –	Rev. Janice Touloukian