

Drawn In

LIVING THE CREATIVE LIFE WITH GOD

Sermon Series Begins
January 10, 2021



Sunday, February 7, 2021

Prelude

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
(arranged by Carol Tornquist)

Jessica Bollinger

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Let Us Be Drawn In Melody & Call to Worship

Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Leader: *[hum or sing softly]* In the world of the driven

All: Let us be drawn in

Leader: Let your love be a given

All: Let us be drawn in

Leader: To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem. For the sake of the living

All: Let us be drawn in

Leader: Everything that is created is in relationship with all other things. God's vision for birds had to do with the quality of the creation of air. How a song is experienced by those who sing it will change the composer's perception of the song or even the song itself. Nothing exists in isolation. So too for our relationships with others. What happens for humanity is closely related to how we respond to each other. Are we willing to re-imagine, re-visit, re-vision our lives as we come in contact with others who are not like us? New possibilities await if we are willing to offer ourselves fully and be willing to be changed by our interactions.

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Leader: Let us pray together:

All: Re-imagining God, you created us for relationship with you and others. Open us to be changed as we encounter the diversity of your children. Draw us into your love. Give us the courage to reach out in love. Amen.

Hymn *O How I Love Jesus* UMH #170, all verses

*There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth,
it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.*

Refrain: *O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!*

*It tells me of a Savior’s love, who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood, the sinner’s perfect plea. **Refrain***

*It tells of one whose loving heart can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. **Refrain***

Offertory *To God Be the Glory* Jessica Bollinger
(arranged by Marilyn Ham)

An Imaginative Word: “Eat Inspiration Like Dinner” by Renhui Moon
Everyone eats inspiration like a fancy dinner. What’s in it that makes it so much desired? Is it the unusual ingredients it contains or the soaring power it promises? Is it the trendy colors it possesses or the music it orchestrates inside us? Is it the delicious taste it offers or the harmony when we are aligned? It is both and all. We are created to create and must be inspired!

Scripture Reading *1 Corinthians 12:12-19* Kim Black
For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be?

Message *Re-Imagine* Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Celebration of Holy Communion
Leader: The Lord be with you!
All: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts in celebration of God’s love!
All: We lift them up to the Lord!
Leader: Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God!
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise!
Leader: God set in motion the grandest creativity project of all—light where there was no light, waters and land, creatures on foot and wing, beauty and laughter. And God called it good. Out of that goodness we came. Imbued with the gifts of the Creator, we were invited to begin our lives of creating: making, building, planting, crafting, fashioning. Sometimes we got sidetracked and forgot this true calling. We destroyed instead of built up. But you, God, kept repairing our lives, calling us again into the joy of relationship with you. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join the saints’ unending hymn:
All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Your creativity knows no bounds and in the fullness of time you came to us fashioned in our own flesh and blood. In sending Jesus you created human and holy connection and showed us what love looks like in public: preaching good news to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives, recovering sight to the blind, setting at liberty those who are oppressed. Jesus promised to continue this work through a new covenant of creativity sending his Spirit to remain and move in and through us. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Just as Christ offered all, so too shall we. We will rise to new life and commit to dream and create.

Leader: Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us in this moment so that we might know your presence and power in our lives. Make us one so that we can co-create your reign on earth as it is in heaven. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this bread and fruit of the vine. Let it fill us with your Spirit for the work and play of loving creation, and each other, fully. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Hymn *Goodness of God* Rev. Rachel Carosiello

Verse 1: *I love You, Lord, for Your mercy never fails me. All my days, I’ve been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up, until I lay my head, oh I will sing of the goodness of God.*

Verse 2: *I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire. In the darkest night, You are close like no other. I’ve known You as a Father. I’ve known You as a Friend.
And I have lived in the goodness of God.*

Chorus: *All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able, oh I will sing of the goodness of God.*

Bridge: *Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me. Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me. With my life laid down, I’m surrendered now. I give you everything,
‘cause Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me.*

Benediction

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