

FATHER'S DAY

June 21, 2020

GOD IS NOT DISTANT AND DEMANDING

Welcome

Call to Worship: (based on Psalm 68:4-5, 19)

Come, sing praises to God! Rejoice in his presence!
For he is our God: a Father to the fatherless,
and the defender of all who need protection;
the One in whom the lonely find a home,
and the prisoner finds release.
Bless the Lord, the God of our salvation,
who sustains and strengthens us,
day after day!
Let's worship God together!

Lighting of the Christ Candle and God's Greeting

Song: Jesus Strong and Kind

Prayer of Confession, based on Hebrews 10:19-22

Almighty God, we are not always people who live by faith. We know that we were created in your image, but we treat ourselves and each other in ways that do not honour your presence within us. We know your laws and your commandments, but we choose to disobey you and to act in ways that harm our neighbours. We hear your call to reach out to those most in need, but instead we turn our backs on them and on you. Forgive us, O God, and help us day by day to become more faithful followers and the people you created us to be. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance: 1 John 1:9 & 2:1&2

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. We have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Thanks be to God. Through Jesus, our sins are forgiven!

Song: Before the Throne of God Above

Children's Time

Song: Hold Me Jesus

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 5:1-10

Sermon: God is not Distant and Demanding.

- On this Father's Day, what are some of the emotions that are mixed up in you?
 - o How has your experience of your earthly father impacted your view of God?
 - o Do you sometimes see God as distant and demanding? Why or why not?
- The writer to the Hebrews says that God is not _____ and _____, But is _____ and _____.
 - o How does the context of other religions at the time make this surprising?
 - o How does God show that he is different?
- What was the main goal of the whole sacrificial and priestly system?
- The writer says this is completed in Jesus and he becomes the source of _____.
- Jesus provides absolute _____ that through him God has come to us, and will always be with us.
 - o How does this (re)shape the way you think about God as Father?
 - o How might you need to (re)think about your relationship with Him?

Song of Response: Good Good Father

Installation of Office-Bearers

Prayers of the People and Offering

God's Parting Blessing

Song: In Christ Alone (birthday song: Willie Rietema, June 18)