

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 27, 2010

Worship 8:00 and 10:30

NEW TESTAMENT TIME WORSHIP

"They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship, and sharing in the fellowship meals and prayers. Day after day they met as a group in the Temple . . ." (Acts 2:42, 46a)

The Christian community has very little to tell us about the content and nothing concerning the form of worship practiced by the first generation of Christians. We speculate that they continued the Jewish practice of going to the Synagogue and Temple. Additionally, there is evidence that they gathered together with other followers of "The Way", a term used to denote Jesus' early disciples, in one another's homes.

In the Synagogue each Sabbath, they would hear the Torah read and receive the Rabbi's teaching. At the Temple, they could offer prayers, make sacrifices, and receive forgiveness and blessings. Starting sometime after Jesus' death and resurrection, his followers began to meet in each other's homes on the first day of the week, Sunday. They shared fellowship, a meal, memories of Jesus' life and teachings, plus received empowerment from the Holy Spirit.

Today's worship experience is an attempt to recapture some of the spirit of what that "House Worship" in New Testament times might have been like.

THE SYNAGOGUE

Musical Prelude

Welcome, Greetings, and Overview

Opening Prayer

One: We gather today to honor and affirm you, Holy and Mysterious God. We come together to express our faith and to be transformed by faith. May our worship offer true praise and bring real growth. **Amen.**

Psalter, Song and Praise

Psalm 149, p. 722

*Hymn

"Praise to the Living God"

#8

*Song

STEP BY STEP

Verse: O God You are my God
And I will ever praise You. (Repeat)

Chorus: I will seek you in the morning
And I will learn to walk in your ways
And step by step you'll lead me
And I will follow you all of my days.

Bridge: I will follow You all of my days
I will follow You all of my days
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my day.

A Saying of Jesus

St. Luke 9:57-62

A Writing of Paul

Galatians 3:26-29

Children's Message *"When I Grow Up . . . "*

Adults' Message *"Resisting the Prophetic"*

THE TEMPLE

*Psalm 13:1-5 (Confessing Pain and Separation)

One: How long, O God? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long, O God?

All: Consider and answer me, my God; lighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death; lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over you"; lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

One: But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

*Silent prayer of Confession

*Psalm 30:5, 11-12 (Words of Hope and Reconciliation)

One: God's anger is but for a moment, and God's favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

All: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosened my sackcloth and girded me with gladness, that my soul may praise you and not be silent. I will give thanks for you forever.

Offering Ourselves to God in Prayer

Special Music

*Hymn

"We Shall Overcome"

#570

*Offerings of the People

*Offertory

HOUSE FELLOWSHIP

*Invitation and Blessing

Men: When we find ourselves feeling hopeless, about the world and the situation in which we live, we will remember,

All: You are with us, O God.

Women: When we find ourselves afraid, in an unknown place, feeling rejected by others, we will remember,

All: You are with us, O God.

One: The God who created, is still creating,

The God revealed in the words and life of Jesus, is still speaking.

The God who empowers us to live life abundantly, gives us the Holy Spirit.

Sharing in Refreshment and Fellowship

Fellowship Conversation

"God . . . you made each one of us in your image,
your imprint is on our very soul."

The Iona Community

Church Community Announcements

The United Church of Christ—**"God didn't stop talking to us
at the end of Bible — God is Still Speaking."**