

**ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
JULY 25, 2021**

PRELUDE

Carl Braden

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

“I Sing Praises”

Joe Weir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

One: Come, you who hunger for food.

All: Worship the Lord who turns wants into plenty.

One: Come, you who hunger for justice.

All: Worship the Lord who turns weeping into laughter.

One: Come, you who hunger for life.

All: Worship the Lord who is our hope and our strength.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

HYMN NO. 49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Congregation

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Christ, when the crowds surrounded you,
hungry for bread and for your word,
you took an offering—five loaves, two fish—
and made for them a feast.**

Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace.

Still, O Lord, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have.

Still, O Lord, we wonder whether there is enough for all.

Forgive us, O God, and make of us a more generous people.

**Empower us to share the gift of our lives,
and enlighten us to see the miracles around us.**

**For you are the giver of grace upon grace,
the one who turns want into plenty.**

Silently pray your personal prayers of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

One: Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God.

PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Rev. Dr. Richard Kleiman

Before the readings:

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:4)

¹ In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. ² It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king’s house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. ³ David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, “This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.” ⁴ So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵ The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, “I am pregnant.” ⁶ So David sent word to Joab, “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷ When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. ⁸ Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house, and wash your feet.” Uriah went out of the king’s house, and there followed him a present from the king. ⁹ But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king’s house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰ When they told David, “Uriah did not go down to his house,” David said to Uriah, “You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?” ¹¹ Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.” ¹² Then David said to Uriah, “Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, ¹³ David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. ¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵ In the letter he wrote, “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.”

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NRSV)

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may

dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

ANTHEM

GOSPEL READING

John 6:1-21 (NRSV)

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

¹ After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹ “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” ¹⁰ Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.” ¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. ¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰ But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

After the readings:

One: Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

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Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

HYMN NO. 815

“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”

Congregation

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on

the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. (*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

After each petition

ONE: God of abundant grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Concluding petition

Generous God, as you provide for us each day,
nourish and strengthen us in faith and faithfulness,
so that we may share your grace in a hungry world;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of life. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev Dr. Richard Kleiman

OFFERTORY

Carl Braden

DOXOLOGY

Congregation

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 695

"Change My Heart, O God"

Congregation

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev Richard Kleiman

CLOSING RESPONSE HYMN

"Will You Come and Follow Me" (vs 1)
**"Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown;
will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?"**

Congregation

POSTLUDE

Carl Braden