

**October 18, 2020**  
**A Short Story about Hidden Growth**



Piano Prelude      Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing - *arr. J. Sanborn*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Like empty jars, we have come to be filled.*

**Like candles, we have come to be set ablaze.**

*Like aged wine in a cask, we have come to be poured out.*

**Like weary travelers, we have come to find rest.**

*Like friends drifted apart, we have come to be reconciled.*

**Like little children, we have come to be surprised.**

*Let us worship God.*

Hymn - *We are One*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Response to Prayer

**Guide me on the pilgrimage**  
**that leads to truth and wholeness,**  
**fill me with your promise**  
**of a love that knows no length.**

Pardon

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

Scripture Readings

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 13:31-35

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn **625** - *Seek Ye First*

Sermon - *A Short Story about Hidden Growth*

Hymn **761** (v.1, 4) - *Who's Goin' to Tell the Story*

Prayers of the People

*We pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Our Father in heaven  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

Hymn 435 (v.1, 4) - *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Benediction

**Praying, let us work for peace,           726  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

Organ Postlude      Now Thank We All Our God - *arr. J. Kellner*

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*This morning, we are grateful for Wendy Davies, who has written the prayers, and Monique Caissie, soloist.*

### **St. Columba's Welcome Statement**

We are called to love, respect and value God's world  
and all the people who inhabit it.  
Our community is strengthened and enriched  
by the full inclusion of people of all ages, races, abilities,  
sexual orientations, gender identities, spiritual perspectives,  
and socioeconomic backgrounds.  
Everyone is invited to travel with us  
as we each explore our journeys of faith,  
whether the path is clear or winding, easy or exhausting,  
or sometimes just feels like it is going round in circles.  
Together, we work to make our community one  
where God's love is truly known.

Hymn - *We are One*

**We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.**

**We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.**

Hymn 625 - *Seek Ye First*

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
seek, and ye shall find;  
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!**

**We do not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Hymn 761 (v.1, 4) - *Who's Goin' to Tell the Story*

**Who's goin' to tell the story?**

**You and I!**

**Tell of the Lord's great glory?**

**You and I!**

**Who's goin' to let the whole world know?**

**Help his disciples grow and multiply?**

**You and I!**

**Who's goin' to feed the hungry?**

**You and I!**

**Care for the sick and lonely?**

**You and I!**

**Who's goin' to let the whole world see**

**people can live in harmony? Let's try!**

**You and I!**

Hymn 435 (v.1, 4) - *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

***All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.***

**Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours;  
God made their tiny wings.**

***All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.***

**God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God almighty  
who has made all things well.**

***All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.***