

STONE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

July 23, 2023

Worship Series: Family Feuds

"What do we do with this text? It's horrifying—that Abraham would plan to kill his son as an act of faith and that God would command it." -Amanda Benckhuysen

WELCOME Pastor Cindy

PRELUDE *The Water Is Wide* British folk song/
Loren & Donna Rhodes arr. Mary Sallee

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from a prayer by Joy Mead) Jeff Decker
Please find #144 in your hymnal for the sung response^

One: We gather, fully recognizing that the world is not always as it should be,

All: But in the comfort of community we may dare to imagine it as it could be.

One: We hope for God's presence and mercy.

Choral Response: Kyrie eleison.

One: We know that we have not always been our best selves.

All: We confess that we have made sacrifices with our time, money, work, mental energy, emotional capacity, that have damaged relationships.

One: We need Christ's example and mercy.

Sung Response: Christe eleison.

One: We know the deep agony of the question: Why?

All: It is not intellectual, yet it is visceral. And sometimes there are no answers,

One: Only the waiting, the walking alongside, the being here.

Sung Response: Kyrie eleison.

One: Only the giving out of what we do not have: the love that comes as we give it.

All: The incredible risk of love demands more than easy answers and pretty prayers.

One: Christ have mercy.

Choral Response: Christe eleison.

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Pastor Ben

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Cindy

SONG *What Comfort Can Our Worship Bring*^^ Adam M.L. Tice

What Comfort Can Our Worship Bring 623
MORNING SONG (CONSOLATION) CM

1 What com-fort can our wor-ship bring on bleak and emp-ty days
2 What sor-row can we dare to own, what an-ger, loss, and fears?
3 O God, hear ev-'ry long-ing sigh as voic-es rise and strain,

to those who can-not bear to sing when pain is missed in praise?
Not just in joy is God made known, but al- so in our tears.
and meet us in that hon-est cry where praise is voiced in pain.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 22: 1-18 Pastor Ben

MESSAGE Don't do it! Pastor Ben

ANTHEM *God to Enfold You*^^ John L. Bell

SENDING Pastor Ben

POSTLUDE *Peaceful Piano #5* Mark Hayes
Loren Rhodes

**Please Rise, as Able, in Body or Spirit
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Let us know you
were here!

