

Sunday, September 27th – 10:00 a.m.
17th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' parable about two sons who do not do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the desert without water the Israelites cry out, "Is the Lord among us or not?" Yes! Every Sunday in communion we encounter the real presence of God. Then nourished by the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

PRELUDES

"Little Prelude in G"
"Settled in the Peace of God"
"The Lord is My Shepherd"

C.P.E. Bach
L. Warriner
arr. P. Harris/J.L. Bain

Pastor says Good Morning and Welcome

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Sung by Barbara Grubb
ELW #553

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

- 3 Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine, scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: Have mercy on us.

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory Be to God in Heaven

Sung by Barbara Grubb

**C: Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all Creation, Father of surpassing worth:
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

R: A reading from the 17th chapter of the book of Exodus:

R: ¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9 *Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love. (Ps. 25:6)*

R: We will read Psalm 25 responsively

R ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul

C: ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

R ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C: ⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

R ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

C: ⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

R: ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

C: ⁸The ⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

R: ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

THE ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (Sung)

Sung by Barbara Grubb

**C: Alleluia! Lord and savior; open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

A: Glory to you, O Lord

P²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

THE CHILDREN'S TIME

SPECIAL MUSIC – Christopher Kirk on Drums "Big House" by Blair/Herdman/McGinnis/Stuart
Accompanied by Lori Hoshaw on Piano

SERMON

by Pastor Tina Mackie

A: Let us profess our Faith with the Apostle's Creed

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

You can add names to the prayer list by contacting the church office. After three weeks names will be removed from the prayer of intercession unless resubmitted. These removed people will still be in our private prayers

A: Drawn together by the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(A brief silence)

A: Throughout the globe is the church: many assemblies are postponed by the virus, our songs quieted, our leaders searching for new ways forward.

(A brief silence)

That you will preserve and protect the earth, we pray to you, mighty God:

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

A: Around us is a needy world: governments allow injustice, violence threatens stability, people experience prejudice, reforms are thwarted, workers are unemployed, medical facilities are strained, children are abused.

(A brief silence)

That you will save the people in all the nations of the world, we pray to you, compassionate God:

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

A: In our nation's courts, we see justice delayed and justice denied. Yet we thank you for the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and for her passion for equality under the law.

(A brief silence)

That you will uphold honest judges and insightful juries throughout our criminal justice system, and that you will assist our nation in its task of filling the Supreme Court, we pray to you, righteous God:

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

A: Around us are the sick: there is starvation, the virus continues, many persons receive no medical attention, our neighbors and dear ones are ill, especially:

(Please read only 1st Name and Congregation can read with AM instead of Echoing)

**Jim Albright, Trace Els, Virgil Emswiler, Ralph Finkbiner, Kelly Gubanich, Sean Murtha and
Kenneth Siedlecki**
(A brief silence)

That you will bless all ministries of care and will relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, we pray to you, merciful God.

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

A: Nearby are needs of which we are unaware,

(A brief silence)

That you will send your holy angels to uphold all who face personal troubles, we pray to you, benevolent God:

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

P: Inside many hearts there is both joy and sorrow. We pray now for ourselves, Zion and those in our heart:

(prayers from your heart for those you care about)

(A longer period of silence)

Others for whom you may wish to pray: (names submitted by our members):

Kenneth Bauer, Deb Althoff, Mike Anthony, Joanne Frederick, John Frederick, Judi Geri, Robert Hindle, Deb Hoff, Glenn Hoff, Amy Hollar, Tom Hughes, Dottie Jacques, Rich Kleylein, Ryan Law, Mary Lesh, Cindy Levengood, Ellen Levy-Gray, Jay Markwart, James Newson, Diane Pannella, Jennifer Paris, Judi Rittenhouse, Brookelyn Rogers, Lynn Schmitt, Brian Spitko, Doris Sypher, Ron Taylor, Chuck Vammen, Vicki Walker, Luke Walton, and Greg Wicker,

(A brief silence)

That you will give us new hearts and a new spirit, we pray to you, loving God.

C: Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Let us share the peace with one another

(Please keep in mind Social Distancing)

OFFERING

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. – Philippians 2:3-4

When we consider the interests of others something beautiful happens: Our own interests seem less important, our wants fewer, and relationships flourish. Only by aligning our wills and lives with Christ may we grow into the fullness of life God desires and intends for us.

*If you wish to make an electronic offering at this time, please go to our website;
zionofspringcity.org and make your contribution there.*

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices communion hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper. Parent(s)/Grandparent(s) will place their hands on untutored young people for a blessing given by the Pastor. The response when receiving the bread and wine could be: "Amen" or "I believe." (Grape juice and Gluten Free wafers are available)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sung)

Sung by Barbara Grub

**C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars, beneath the sea, within each cell, with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness; through the water, by night and day, across the wilderness, out of exile, into the future.

C: We bless you, O Lord.

P: We give you thanks for your Son: at the heart of human life, near to those who suffer, beside the sinner, among the poor, with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: Amen

P: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray,

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast. **C: Amen.**

SHARING IN COMMUNION -

P: This is the Body of Christ given for you

C: I believe or Amen (Congregation will eat the wafer)

P: This is the Blood of Christ given for you

C: I believe or Amen (Congregation will drink the wine)

