

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

THEME: We cherish the people God has given to care for us.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG "Red Book" 16 Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, This is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, This is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, This is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

OPENING BLESSING

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

BEING HONEST ABOUT OURSELVES...

P: As we begin our worship we start by being honest about ourselves. God gives us people who care for us. First Responders, military service personnel, teachers, doctors and nurses are some of those important people. During this time of silence, we think about the times that we have been angry or disrespectful toward those people that God has given to care for us.

(Silence for personal reflection)

P: We confess our sins.

C: Lord, we need Your mercy. You have asked us to show honor to those who have cared for us. Too often we have simply forgotten to say "thank you" or show any kind of appreciation. You have asked us to obey those who have been placed in authority. Too often we have begrudged those in authority and paid them little respect. You want us to cherish those people who care for us. We have failed to do even this. Make us new today to appreciate more those you have given us. Lord, we need your mercy.

YOU ARE FORGIVEN

P: God provides for all that we need in this life. This includes the people that care for us. It also includes the forgiveness that we need to become new and live for God. Jesus once said, "Whatever sins you forgive on earth will be forgiven in heaven." Receive this forgiveness and know that your sins count as no more in God's sight. By the power and authority of Jesus, I forgive you as your sins.....in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE "Green Book" 527 (vs. 1,4,7)

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice with us and Sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam;
Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfolds rich blessings on our way,
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
The fruits and flow'rs that verdant grow,
Let them his praise abundant show.
Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together:

C: Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

The First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24

Amos warns of the destruction God on the "day of the Lord"

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
"I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain
offerings, I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Paul comforts the Thessalonians with the promise of the resurrection

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

[The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25: 1-13](#)

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

[SERMON SONG "Green Book" 368](#) [I Love Your Kingdom, Lord](#)

I love your kingdom, Lord, The place of your abode;
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With his own precious blood.

I love your Church, O God! Its walls before you stand,
Dear as the apple of your eye And graven on your hand.

Beyond my highest joy I prize its heav'nly ways,
Its sweet communion, solemn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.

Sure as your truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heav'n.

[SERMON](#)

["Counterculture"](#)

[AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH](#)

P: The fourth commandment teaches us to honor your father and your mother. What does this mean?

C: We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents or other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

**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
And born of the virgin Mary.
He 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 Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERINGS

The offerings gathered are a sign of our whole lives offered to God in humble gratitude for his greatest of all offerings, his Son offered for our salvation.

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God, and for all people according to their needs:
(after each prayer)

P: Lord in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 glory forever and ever. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Hear Our Prayer

Arranged by Marty Parks

PRAYER OF THANKS

P: Dear Lord Jesus Christ, we give you praise and thanksgiving for all the first responders and military personnel in our communities around the world who bravely serve to protect us from harm. Be with them this day and protect them always as they continue their diligence on the streets and battlefields. We pray for their protection. For those who have given their lives, we ask that their families are healed and protected from more harm. Amen.

CLOSING BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG "Red Book" 263 Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices,
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all harm in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POST-SERVICE MUSIC