

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THEME: God's love, above human traditions, compels us to serve others!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLING ON GOD

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

C: Amen

P: The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?

C: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

P: When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

C: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

P: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

OPENING UP TO GOD.....

P: The prophet Isaiah once said, "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me." The Lord desires that we have a clean and upright heart before Him. To make sure that our hearts are clean, we dedicate time each week to confess our wrongdoings, our sins. During this time of silence let us think about the misplaced motives and actions of our hearts.

Silence for reflection

P: Let us confess together,

C: Lord we need Your mercy. In this hour, help us to see our sins and pain and pray for a fresh start. Help us to see the shortcomings in our lives and look to You for the answers to our problems. Give us a new vision of what life can be like. Teach us to hope, to love, to give and to have faith. Lord, we need Your mercy.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

SONG OF CONFIDENCE "Red Book" 78 How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim "My God how great thou art!"
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
 How great thou art! How great thou art!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray.....O God, we thank you for your Son who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow his commands; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 29:11-19

The people honor the Lord with their lips, but their hearts are far from Him

And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

And the Lord said:

"Because this people draw near with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me,
and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,
therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people,
with wonder upon wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,
and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel,
whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

You turn things upside down!

Shall the potter be regarded as the clay,
that the thing made should say of its maker,
"He did not make me";

or the thing formed say of him who formed it,
"He has no understanding"?

Is it not yet a very little while
until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.

The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 5:22-33

Paul's rule of ethics for Christian marriage

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-13

Jesus' disciples break with traditional ways

Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."

And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God)—then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

SERMON HYMN

Whatsoever You Do

Whatsoever you do to the least of my people,
That you do unto me.
When I was hungry, you gave me to eat;
When I was thirsty, you gave me to drink.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Whatsoever you do to the least of my people,
That you do unto me.
When I was weary, you helped me find rest;
When I was anxious, you calmed all my fears.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Whatsoever you do to the least of my people,
That you do unto me.
When I was laughed at, you stood by my side;
When I was happy, you shared in my joy.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Whatsoever you do to the least of my people,
That you do unto me.
When I was hungry, you gave me to eat;
When I was thirsty, you gave me to drink.
Now enter into the home of my Father.
Whatsoever you do to the least of my people,
That you do unto me.

SERMON

"Having a Compass"

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come 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**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For a true faith, that we would honor God not just with our lips, but serve Him faithfully with all of our heart, mind and strength, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For husbands and wives, that wives submit to their husbands and husbands love their wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her, and that husbands love their wives and wives respect their husbands, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all Christians, that we not reject God's commandments for the doctrine of men, but rather that we be given grace to keep God's commandments in thought, word and deed, honoring God in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For children of all ages, that they would honor their mother and father, so that they would not despise or anger their parents, but honor them, serve and obey them, and love and cherish them, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who are physically, emotionally and spiritually suffering on account of illness, *[including _____,]* that God would encourage them with His Word and grace, and that He would bless all medical professionals with the skills necessary to alleviate such suffering and pain where it is possible, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE STORY

CLOSING SONG "Red Book" 150

I Have the Joy

I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart; I have the joy, joy,
Joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I have the peace that passes understanding, down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart; I have the peace that passes
Understanding, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart; I have the love of Jesus,
Love of Jesus, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL