

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 24, 2016

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER.....Prayer is a gift. Through faith in Jesus, you are welcomed into the Father's presence. As you approach the throne of God with both praise and petition, His Spirit grants you the grace to pray with confidence. As our worship service will show us, saints throughout the ages have experienced the privilege of pleading prayer. Jesus teaches us that prayer is a gracious opportunity for children to come into their Father's presence and have a conversation with Him. May this conversation you have today be richly blessed as God reaches into your life to fill you with His presence and peace!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

C: We should never be discouraged. Let's take it to the Lord in prayer.

P: Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?

C: Jesus knows our every weakness. Let's take it to the Lord in prayer.

OPENING UP TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

P: In a time of confession, let us take our sins to the Lord in prayer, trusting that our Father hears us for the sake of His Son, Jesus.

Silent Reflection

P: With humble hearts, we join together in prayer:

C: Heavenly Father.....we bow before You and confess our sinfulness. Your Holy Law, as we know it from the Ten Commandments, is like a mirror for our lives. It shows us how desperately we need Your forgiveness for our sins of thought, word and deed. Even when we are not aware, we turn away from You when we should be turning toward You. Forgive us, Father. Have mercy on us, gracious Lord. Bring us the healing of body and soul that comes from the forgiveness of Christ.

P: Your Father in heaven hears your prayer and, in His great mercy, has given His Son to die on the cross and rise again for you. The blessing of His cross and resurrection is yours today. I announce God's grace, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

PRAISE SONG "Green Book" 439 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and grief's to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray..... O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament: Genesis 18:20-33

Abraham pleads before the Lord, and the Lord answers him

Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the

Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Epistle: Colossians 2:6-15

Our lives are rooted in Christ

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches His disciples to pray

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed by your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone who is
indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation."

And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give

him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN

Standin' in the Need of Prayer

Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer,
It's me, (It's me,)it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer,
It's me, (It's me,) it's m, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer

Not my preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.
It's me, (It's me,)it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer,
It's me, (It's me,) it's m, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer

Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.
It's me, (It's me,)it's me, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer,
It's me, (It's me,) it's m, Oh Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer

SERMON

"Joining the Conversation"

WE SHARE OUR FAITH

C: We believe in God, the Creator of all things, the source of all goodness and love.....We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God yet true man. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven, and will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.....We believe in the Holy Spirit, the power of God at work inside of us.....We believe in the church of God, the people of faith throughout the world.....We believe that our sin is forgiven and that we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

OFFERING

(We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us—our selves, our time, our possessions)

OFFERTORY

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false teaching where Your name is profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend (names) and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his efforts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

C: We should never be discouraged. We take it to the Lord in prayer.

P: Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?

C: Because Jesus knows our every weakness, we take all things to the Lord in prayer.

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 HYMN "Red Book" 93

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; how pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Post-Service Music