

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 2, 2016

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER.....At work, home and even at times in the church, we often do the things we do seeking or expecting some kind of recognition or reward. As Christians, though, we are reminded that through our Spirit-given faith, the greatest reward we could ever desire has already been attained for us through the life, death, and rising of Jesus, who came into the flesh not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. With our hearts and minds on His sacrificial service for us, in response to His eternally rewarding grace, we can humbly go about our lives with these simple words: "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty" (Luke 17:10).

RINGING OF THE BELL.....

After the ringing of the bell, we prepare our minds and hearts *in silence* for today's worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

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

C: Amen

WE CONFESS

P: Lord, we come to You as unworthy servants as we are by nature sinful and unclean.

Silence for reflection

C: We are by nature sinful. We have not always done what was our faithful duty. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Often our service to others has been rooted in selfishness and our motives have been impure. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

P: We are unworthy servants, for we have sinned and deserve present and eternal punishment. For our sake, our Lord Jesus Christ came into this sinful and selfish world as the perfect Servant. He served us by His perfect life and by giving up His life on Calvary's cross as payment for our sin. At the command and promise of our Lord Jesus Christ and as a called and ordained servant of His Word, I forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin....my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.....they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray..... O God, Your gift of faith is a blessing to us and gives us the confidence that You are continually by our side. Teach us to live our lives as a reflection of Your love that we may serve You and humbly serve others in truth, that all may give honor to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 *Habakkuk's complaint and the Lord's answer*

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted. . . .

I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

And the Lord answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

"Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith."

SECOND LESSON: 2 Timothy 1:1-14 *Paul's encouragement to be faithful as a servant*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I think God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus

before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: Luke 17:1-10 *Temptations, repentance, forgiveness, and growing faith as Christ's servants*

[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

SERMON HYMN "Green Book" 423 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose Ev'ry gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you Lord, in deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul
By your Spirit send your power To our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service, You're abundant life to share.

SERMON

The Attitude of Servanthood

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: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord God, You have given us the promise that our faith is sustained by You and Your work. As we are often tempted to rely on faith in ourselves rather than in You, guide us with Your Spirit to trust confidently in You. In joyous duty as Your faithful servants, we pray,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Ever-present Lord, throughout time You spoke Your Word and used people to bring encouragement to those in need. You answered Habakkuk in his cry for help, and through Paul, You affirmed young Timothy in his work for Your kingdom. Strengthen our faith to trust that You will answer our prayers and to wait patiently for Your will to be done. In joyous duty as Your servants, we pray,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Ever-giving Lord, the greatest blessing You gave to this world was Your own Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who knew the struggles of the flesh and yet remained the perfect Servant. As He taught about a mature faith through temptations, repentance, and true forgiveness, help us to live as Your servants, doing that which is our duty. Move us to fan into flame the faith You have given and grow through Your Word and Means of Grace. In joyous duty as Your servants, we pray,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Ever-comforting Lord, physician of body and soul, we lift up to You those who suffer in any way. Strengthen them with Your Spirit and keep them firm in their faith, (especially.....). In joyous duty as Your servants, we pray,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Increase the generosity and sincerity of forgiveness among Your people, that we may enjoy an enriched fellowship marked not by dissension but by the righteousness of Christ. In fellowship at

this altar, prepare our hearts and minds to receive what has been given and shed for us in the body and blood of Jesus, our Lord. In joyous duty as Your servants, we pray,

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

CHOIR **Song of Remembrance** **By Tom Fettke**

PREFACE

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Red Book" 49

Glorify Thy Name

Father, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth,

Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth,

Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth,

Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

"Red Book" 108

I've Got Peace Like a River

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a

River, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a

River, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an
Ocean, I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an
Ocean, I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a
Fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a
Fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

"Red Book" 14 Bind Us Together

Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, Bind us together
Bind us together with love.

There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one body.
That is why I sing.

Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, Bind us together
Bind us together with love.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide....till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

DISMISSAL