TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 26, 2025
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Steven Phillips

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken* arr. Steven Phillips

based on Luke 18:14

CALL TO WORSHIP Dave Householder

All who exalt themselves will be humbled,
but all who humble themselves will be exalted.
We humble ourselves before our God,
ready to hear and receive God's truth.

***HYMN 275** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* EIN' FESTE BURG

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him. *(continued next page)*

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also.
The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Scott Sabin

Holy God,
your truth is so often sharp and unsettling.
We confess the ways we skirt the hard edges of your Word,
turn up the volume on lesser noises,
and lean into the comfort of our own certainty
rather than submit to the discomfort of your challenge.
Have mercy on us.
Soften what pride has hardened in us.
Let us hear and receive your truth.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 611** (v. 1) *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *I'll Sing* Molly James
(The Chancel Choir with Cindy Scaruffi - Klispie, trumpet)

I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

page 891

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 14:13-21

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *A Journey of a Thousand Miles* Scott Sabin

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Dave Householder

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors:
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *Grazioso* (from *Heroic Music*) Georg Philipp Telemann
(Cindy Scaruffi-Klispie, trumpet)

***DOXOLOGY 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

From *The Declaration of Faith* (1977)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Dave Householder

God created and rules in love.
God created all the worlds that are
and upholds and rules everything.
We affirm that the universe exists
by the power of God's Word and Spirit.
God has chosen to give it reality
out of the love we have come to know in Christ.
God still works
through the processes that shape and change the earth
and the living things upon it.
We acknowledge God's care and control
in the regularity of the universe
as well as in apparently random happenings.
There is no event from which God is absent
and his ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving.
That purpose embraces our choices
and will surely be accomplished.
The Creator works in all things
toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 39** *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Scott Sabin

POSTLUDE *Hornpipe (*from *Water Music Suite*) Georg Frederic Händel
(Cindy Scaruffi-Klispie, trumpet)

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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