



August 9, 2020

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Wade in the Water

African-American Spiritual

The Greeting

The Hymn No. 139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings,
e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds
all, whose true good he upholds,
Hast thou not known his sustaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness
and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who with his love doth befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish
thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks
that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need
God as a mother doth speed
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is
in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the amen
sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

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The Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives,
bringing new life out of destruction,
hope out of despair,
growth out of difficulty.**

We thank you that you do not leave us alone
 but labor to make us whole.
 Help us to perceive your unseen hand
 in the unfolding of our lives,
 and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit,
 that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 10: 5-15

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Hymn No. 2212

My Life Flows On

1. My life flows on in endless sone,
 above earth's lamentations.
 I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
 that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
 while to that Rock I'm clinging.
 Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
 how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all tumult and the strife,
 I hear that music ringing.
 It finds an echo in my soul.
 How can I keep from singing. **Refrain**

3. What though my joys and comforts die?
 I know my Savior liveth.
 What though the darkness gather round?
 Songs in the night he giveth. **Refrain.**

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
 a fountain ever springing!
 All things are mine since I am his!
 How can I keep from singing? **Refrain**

The Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The View from the Pit

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo

How Beautiful Are the Feet of Him (from The Anthem on the Peace) Lynn Kotrady, alto; Joel Coreas, baritone
 G. F. Handel
 transcribed by Stanley M. Baker

How beautiful are the feet of them
 that preach the Gospel of peace,
 and bring glad tidings of good things!

Romans 10:15b
 ©Stanley M. Baker

The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer
 The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Hymn No. 98

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Refrain*
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

The Benediction

The Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Johann Gottfried Walther

We thank these persons who participated in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music/Organist:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Vocalists:	Lynn Kotrady, Joel Coreas
Video:	Rachel Bates, Dan Corcoran

Scripture

Romans 10:5-15

Salvation Is for All

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because^[a] if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

\Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ² This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father’s wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves.^[a] ⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Joseph Is Sold by His Brothers

¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father’s flock near Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, “Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.” He answered, “Here I am.” ¹⁴ So he said to him, “Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.” So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, ¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, “What are you seeking?” ¹⁶ “I am seeking my brothers,” he said; “tell me, please, where they are

pasturing the flock.”¹⁷ The man said, “They have gone away, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’” So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan.¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him.¹⁹ They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer.²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.”²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.”²² Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves^[a] that he wore;²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵ Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.

²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?

²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed.²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.