



July 19, 2020

Fifth 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

Summer in Central Park
©1972 by Ecaroh Music, Inc.; Copyright renewed 2000.

Horace Silver

The Greeting

The Hymn No. 400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.
2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Rock of Israel,**

**Cornerstone of our common life,
you are not bound by our structures,
our dreams, or our doctrines.**

We cannot predict your coming or going.

**Yet you have given us your story,
your family, and your work to do.
Meet us here.**

**Speak to us,
Startle us with your word.
So may we rise up from our sleep,
and raise up sacred pillars:
our lives, transformed, in you. Amen.**

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:24-30

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

The Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 28:10-22

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

The Sermon

In Between Monuments

Rev. Drew Willson

The Hymn No. 418

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

JACOB'S LADDER

1. We are climbing Jacob's ladder;
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,
we are climbing Jacob's ladder;
brothers, sisters, all.
2. Every rung goes higher, higher;
every rung goes higher, higher,
every rung goes higher, higher;
brothers, sisters, all.
3. Every new one makes us stronger,
every new one makes us stronger,
every new one makes us stronger,
brothers, sisters, all.
4. We are climbing Jacob's ladder;
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are brothers and sisters, all.

*Tune: © Adapt. and arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press.
Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731785. All rights reserved.*

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo *Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth* (from Elijah) Felix Mendelssohn
Todd Minnich, tenor

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.
Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away forever.

Matthew 13:43a; Isaiah 51:11

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. 528*Nearer, My God, to Thee*

BETHANY

1. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
2. Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
yet in my dreams I'd be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
3. There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
angels to beckon me
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
so by my woes to be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
5. Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

The Benediction**The Postlude***Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

Afro-American Spiritual

adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

*Tune: © 1989, United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press.
Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731785. All rights reserved.*

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
Vocal Soloist:	Todd Minnich
Video:	Rachel Bates, Dan Corcoran

Scripture

Matthew 13:24-30 (*Common English Bible translation*)

Parable of the weeds

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like someone who planted good seed in his field. ²⁵ While people were sleeping, an enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ When the stalks sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ “The servants of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Master, didn’t you plant good seed in your field? Then how is it that it has weeds?’

²⁸ “‘An enemy has done this,’ he answered.

“The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather them?’

²⁹ “But the landowner said, ‘No, because if you gather the weeds, you’ll pull up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow side by side until the harvest. And at harvesttime I’ll say to the harvesters, “First gather the weeds and tie them together in bundles to be burned. But bring the wheat into my barn.”’”

Genesis 28:10-22 (*Common English Bible translation*)

Jacob’s dream at Bethel

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and set out for Haran. ¹¹ He reached a certain place and spent the night there. When the sun had set, he took one of the stones at that place and put it near his head. Then he lay down there. ¹² He dreamed and saw a raised staircase, its foundation on earth and its top touching the sky, and God’s messengers were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ Suddenly the LORD was standing on it and saying, “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will become like the dust of the earth; you will spread out to the west, east, north, and south. Every family of earth will be blessed because of you and your descendants. ¹⁵ I am with you now, I will protect you everywhere you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done everything that I have promised you.”

¹⁶ When Jacob woke from his sleep, he thought to himself, The LORD is definitely in this place, but I didn’t know it. ¹⁷ He was terrified and thought, This sacred place is awesome. It’s none other than God’s house and the entrance to heaven. ¹⁸ After Jacob got up early in the morning, he took the stone that he had put near his head, set it up as a sacred pillar, and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He named that sacred place Bethel, though Luz was the city’s original name. ²⁰ Jacob made a solemn promise: “If God is with me and protects me on this trip I’m taking, and gives me bread to eat and clothes to wear, ²¹ and I return safely to my father’s household, then the LORD will be my God. ²² This stone that I’ve set up as a sacred pillar will be God’s house, and of everything you give me I will give a tenth back to you.”