GRACE IN THE DESERT May 4 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Song "Forgiven"

Invocation

Children's Message

Response Song "Jesus, Friend of Sinners"

Old Testament Reading: Jonah 4:1-3

New Testament Reading: Acts 7:54-60

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:7; Matthew 18:21–35

Message Song: "Forgiveness"

Message: "It's Hard to Be Merciful"

Confession of Faith "We Believe"

Prayers

Confession and Absolution

C O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy;
Be gracious to us for we have gone astray from your ways.
Create in us new and contrite hearts,
that we may now truly lament and confess our sins to You.
Blessed are the poor in spirit.
But in our pride we exalt ourselves.
Blessed are those who mourn.

But in our envy we recoil from others' happiness.

Blessed are the meek and the peacemakers.

But in our wrath we lash out in revenge.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But in our sloth we despair of virtue.

Blessed are the merciful.

But in our greed we demand to possess and fail to give.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

But in our lust we sacrifice others to serve ourselves.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

But in our gluttony we consume unto sickness.

Heavenly Father, it is evident we too have loved darkness. Give us grace to walk again in the light so that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin and we have true fellowship with one another. Do this for our good and Your glory.

AMEN. (retrieved from https://2cherish2commend.com/2017/05/11/prayer-of-confession-of-sin-the-beatitudes/)

P Absolution

Communion
Prayer/Consecration of Elements
Lord's Prayer
Distribution
Communion Blessing
Offering Prayer

Lord, let our congregation be a witness to you:
Immersed in scripture; Constant in prayer
Joyful in worship; Generous in giving
A loving, supportive community
Reaching out to those in need.
Accept these gifts we offer,
in Jesus' name
Amen
(retrieved from http://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/prayers-offering)

Benediction

Sending Song "Undo"

Sending Out