

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PARKING LOT/ZOOM WORSHIP

Sunday, October 10th, 2021

Opening Scripture: Michelle Matusiak

Hebrews 4: 12-16

Jesus the Great High Priest

¹² For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,¹⁴ Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Hymnal 474

1. Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light:

Refrain:

Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.

2. When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall:

(Refrain)

3. When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand:

(Refrain)

Welcome: Pastor Scott Clawson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Michelle Matusiak

Listen, for the voice of God comes near!

Listen, for God's voice is not obtrusive.

We come to worship the God who became one of us,

Who calls us by name,

Who is Love Incarnate,

Who is!

Let us gather together in joy and hope –

Let us worship the God of Love!

*Roger D. Shaw, in **Flames of Spirit: Resources for Worship**, Ruth Duck, ed, Pilgrim Press, 1985, 61.*

Hymn: "God Will Take Care of You" Hymnal 130

1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
beneath his wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Refrain:

God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
when dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

(Refrain)

3. All you may need he will provide,
God will take care of you;
nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.

(Refrain)

4. No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
lean, weary one, upon his breast,
God will take care of you.

(Refrain)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and Spirit. All of this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Kelly Herzig introduced by Melinda McCollum

Bob and Janice Felter introduced by Tom and Carolyn Geary

Doreen Bass introduced by Donna Clawson

Jane Lefell introduced by Susan Stevens

COMMITMENT QUESTIONS

These historic questions are asked to those adults who seek to become baptized members of the church.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

If you do say I do.

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

If you do say I do.

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior; put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? If you do say I do.

I do.

Will you, according to the grace given to you, remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

If you will say I will.

I will

As members of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,

and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? If you will say I will:

I will.

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service? If you will say I will:

I will.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT

As the community of faith, we also make a commitment today to surround these people before you in a community of grace so that with God's leadership and our help, they can continue to grow in faith and service.

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Our affirmation of faith binds us together as believers and proclaims to the world what we believe to be true. Let us affirm our faith together:

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

REMEMBERING YOUR BAPTISM

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus the Christ.

The God of all grace who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

Prayers for the People

Old Testament: Michelle Matusiak

Job 23: 1-9, 16-17

23 Then Job replied:

2 "Even today my complaint is bitter; his hand^[a] is heavy in spite of^[b] my groaning.
3 If only I knew where to find him; if only I could go to his dwelling! **4** I would state my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. **5** I would find out what he would answer me, and consider what he would say to me. **6** Would he vigorously oppose me?

No, he would not press charges against me. **7** There the upright can establish their innocence before him, and there I would be delivered forever from my judge.

8 "But if I go to the east, he is not there; if I go to the west, I do not find him.

9 When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him.

16 God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me. **17** Yet I am not silenced by the darkness, by the thick darkness that covers my face.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Pastor Scott Clawson
"If Only I Could Get My Hands on You"



Sharing of Communion

Hymn: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Hymnal 479

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.

2. Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am;
thou art full of truth and grace.

4. Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart;
rise to all eternity.

Benediction: Pastor Scott Clawson

Postlude: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen