

TAILGATE WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Opening Scripture

Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16

Richard Stonebraker

A *maskil*^[a] of Asaph.

¹ My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—

³ things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.

¹² He did miracles in the sight of their ancestors in the land of Egypt, in the region of Zoan.

¹³ He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand up like a wall.

¹⁴ He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night.

¹⁵ He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them water as abundant as the seas;

¹⁶ he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers.

Opening Hymn 600

“Wonderful Words of Life”

Lily Sutherin

1. Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life; let me more of their beauty see,
Wonderful words of life; words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.

o **Refrain:**

**Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life. Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.**

2. Christ, the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life; sinner, list to the loving call,
Wonderful words of life; all so freely given, wooing us to heaven. **Refrain:**
3. Sweetly echo the Gospel call, wonderful words of life; offer pardon and peace to all,
Wonderful words of life; Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever. **Refrain:**

Welcome

Pastor Scott Clawson

A STATEMENT OF FAITH

Richard Stonebraker

We are the people of God.

We are a sign of the New World.

We are the sisters and brothers of Jesus.

We believe in God. We believe in the goodness of God, the presence of God in human history, and the nearness of God's love.

We believe in Christ. We believe that God was and is revealed in human life, that out of human suffering may come rescue and healing, that out of death comes new life.

We believe in the Eternal Spirit, who moves among God's people and invited the world into God's reign. We believe that the world can change, that peace and wholeness can come, that the New World can arrive.

We are the people of God.

We are the sign of the New World.

We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

*(David Beebe, **Flames of the Spirit**, edited by Ruth Duck, Pilgrim Press, p. 92)*

Hymn 405

“Seek Ye First”

Lily Sutherin

1. Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

Prayers of the People

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21: 23-32

Richard Stonebraker

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

²⁴ Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

²⁹ “‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

Sermon

“Who the H E Double Hockey Sticks Do You Think You Are?”

Pastor Scott Clawson

Reception of New Members Hymnal 33

Troy, Kate, Isaac, Lilly, Ben, and Sarah Hanson

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.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

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 the life everlasting.**

As 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.

Congregation - 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 in 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, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, With your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Partaking of Communion

Closing Hymn 292

"What Wonderful Love Is This"

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.
2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, to lay aside his crown for my soul.
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme I will sing.
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through eternity I'll sing on.

Benediction

Pastor Scott Clawson

