

Woodbury United Methodist Church and  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Woodbury

September 27, 2020  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

---

PRELUDE

*I Love You, Lord*  
Christopher Shay, keyboard

Laurie Klein

GREETING

Rev. John Thomason

\*OPENING RESPONSES AND PRAYER from *An Anglican Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition*  
led by Rev. Thomason

Officiant: Creator of the world, eternal God, you call us each by name.

**All: We your people have come from many places for a little while.**

Officiant: Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us.

**All: We ave come with all our differences seeking common ground.**

Officiant: So here in this place, let us take time together. For when paths cross and God's people gather, there is much to share and celebrate.

**All: In your name, three-in-one God, pattern of community, we share your care and challenge. Amen.**

Officiant: Let us pray. God the Maker, maker of color, sound, texture, quietness, and the restless beauty in living things.

**All: We bless you.**

Officiant: God the Maker, maker of granite and mustard seed, of grey cloud and starlight, of earthquake and heartbeat.

**All: We bless you.**

Officiant: God the Maker, maker of all that is unseen, of all that has been, of all that words could never capture.

**All: We bless you.**

Officiant: God the Maker, we, the children of your love, the creatures of your kindness, the guardians of your creation, bless you.

**All: We bless you for your making, your trusting, your loving, your never-ending goodness. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
Hymns sung by Carolyn Shay

Wyeth

COLLECT

For Proper 21  
led by The Rev. Tuesday Rupp

*Book of Common Prayer*

Officiant: O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity:  
Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Thomason

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison: *trespasses*)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by JoAnn Behlman

Lessons for the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
from the *Revised Common Lectionary*

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13  
*Let the same mind be in you as Christ Jesus*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Psalm 25: *To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul*  
Sung Response (Solo):

*Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.*

*Sung Response*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**O my God, in you I trust, let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.**

Let none that wait for you be put to shame;

**let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,

**teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

**for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.**

*Sung Response*

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore the Lord instructs sinners in the way, and leads the humble in what is right, and teaches them their way.

**All the paths of the Lord are steadfast in love and faithfulness, for those who keep the Lord's covenant and testimonies.**

*Sung Response*

\*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32 (NRSV)

*Parable of the Two Sons*

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe me?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*In God Alone My Soul*  
The Rev. Rupp

Taize

SERMON

*God Is at Work in You*

The Rev. Rupp

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

led by Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

JoAnn Behlman

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Rev. Thomason

OFFERTORY

*Rock of Ages*

Hastings

BENEDICTION

The Rev. Rupp

Officiant: Jesus said, "I am with you always." Claim who you are and may God the Creator bless you. Use the gifts you have been given and may God the Son walk with you. Go forth into the world, and may God the Spirit lead your lives with love.

**All: Amen.**

The Peace

Officiant: Not an easy peace, not an insignificant peace, not a half-hearted peace, but the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with us now.  
Let us go in peace to love and serve our Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Days of Elijah*

Robin Mark