

Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

This coming Sunday, August 1, is the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost. I will be spending some much needed time with family for a cousin's wedding, so Dr. Cornel Venema, president of Mid-America Reformed Seminary, will be stepping in to preach. Hopefully you recall him covering one of our virtual services back in December! Dr. Venema will be preaching on the theme "Gifted by the Spirit for Service." In preparation for Sunday's service, I invite you to consider what your spiritual gifts might be. Have you ever thought about this question? How do you know if a gift is from God? How can you use your gifts for the good of the Kingdom?



We will continue our practice of hybrid worship this Sunday. This means that you are welcome to join us in person and that you are welcome to join us from home, whatever works best for you. If you are able to access technology for virtual worship, we will be live streaming the service via Youtube and Facebook. For Youtube Live, please go to our channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPh2zjtSFxk2uo9_YWEusCQ/, subscribe to it, and enable notifications. The live video should be up and running just before 10:30 AM CST.

For Facebook Live, please go to our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpchighland/> around 10:30 AM CST. We will also post a recording of the service later in the day.

As always, I have included all of Sunday's worship materials, including the bulletin, readings, hymn, sermon, and creative activities for disciples of all ages. N.B. the included sermon is one that I have written on a previous occasion, as Dr. Venema typically preaches extemporaneously rather than from a manuscript.

I leave you with these words from *1 Corinthians*: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

PLEASE NOTE that we will be celebrating communion the following Sunday, August 8, and that service will be a special all virtual service joining our youth on their mission trip in Decatur, Michigan. Stay tuned for more information, but due to the time difference and different service time at our host church, we will be livestreaming at 9:00 AM Central Time with the recording available the rest of the day.

In Christ and With Love,

Rev. Tyler Orem