St. Andrews Presbyterian Church November 15, 2020

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Setting by Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the Lord's Day, the day of wonder and grace.

This is the day to worship the One who calls us together.

This is the Lord's Day, the day we are given joy and peace.

This is the day promised to us, the day of healing and renewal.

This is the Lord's Day, and it has come just in time!

This is the day we gather with hope, with faith, with love!

HYMN Come, Labor On Ora labora

1) Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain While all around us waves the golden grain? And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."

2) Come, labor on.

Claim the high calling angels cannot share; To young and old the gospel gladness bear. Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh. 3) Come, labor on.

Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear! No arm so weak but may do service here. Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill God's righteous will.

4) Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky, Till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie, And a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done!"

CONFESSING OUR SIN

Generous God, giver of every good gift, you have offered us abundance and yet we do not know how to use it. Sometimes we keep it to calm our fear, saving up for our own security, insurance against days of scar city. Sometimes we hoard, wanting to have the most and the best. Sometimes we insist we don't have any thing to offer, closing our eyes to the talents you bestow. But mostly we are inertia-bound. We know what to do, but we don't do it. You give us the tools to do your work, but we just look at them in wonder, then put them away in the closet. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes, our hands, our hearts, to know your abundance is enough for all, to know your gifts are for using, not looking at, to know we are blessed in order to be a blessing to others, and to act on that knowledge. We pray in the name of Christ, who gave of everything he had.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

JOYFUL RESPONSE TO THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Glory to God

VASILE

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Margaret Ellingson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 123

MUSICAL OFFERING

GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:14-30

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

I believe in Believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory Response We Give Thee but Thine Own

SCHUMANN

We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: Gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.

Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.

Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:
Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of his hand.



Information about today's Music:

Opening Voluntary Based on the tune BEACH SPRING, attributed to B. F. White, from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844