

August 16, 2020

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – Psalm 67

*Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.*

**People: May the way of the Lord be known upon the earth and His saving power among all nations!**

*Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God! Let all the peoples praise you.*

**People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

*Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God! Let all the peoples praise you.*

**People: The earth has yielded its increase. God, our God, has blessed us.**

*Leader: May God continue to bless us.*

**People: Let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord our God.**

\*Song of Praise      “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”      Celebration Hymnal No. 151

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*O God, our Heavenly Father, we come to worship you this Sunday morning. Increase our knowledge of You and the Word made flesh. Guide our thoughts and enlighten us in our study of the Bible. By the Holy Spirit, draw our hearts closer to You and our Lord, Jesus Christ. Forgive us our sins and cleanse us. Help us to better represent Your will and ways among the nations, even as we pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

First Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:7-17

Second Lesson

Matthew 15:10-20

\*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

Sermon

“The Comeback People”

Rev. Dr. Eugene A. Blair

Hymn of Reflection

“Nearer, My God, to Thee”

Celebration Hymnal No. 553

Pastoral Prayer

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.*

\*Hymn of Going Forth

Celebration Hymnal No. 761

“Therefore the Redeemed of the Lord”

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

“Make Us One”

Make us one Lord, make us one  
Holy Spirit, make us one  
Let our love flow, so the world will know  
We are one in you; we are one in you.

\*Postlude

\*We invite you to stand if you are able.

## First Lesson

### **2 Corinthians 4:7-17**

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

<sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. <sup>11</sup>For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death is at work in us, but life in you. <sup>13</sup>But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure,

## Second Lesson

### **Matthew 15:10-20**

<sup>10</sup>Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" <sup>13</sup>He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." <sup>16</sup>Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

The Word of God for the people of God.

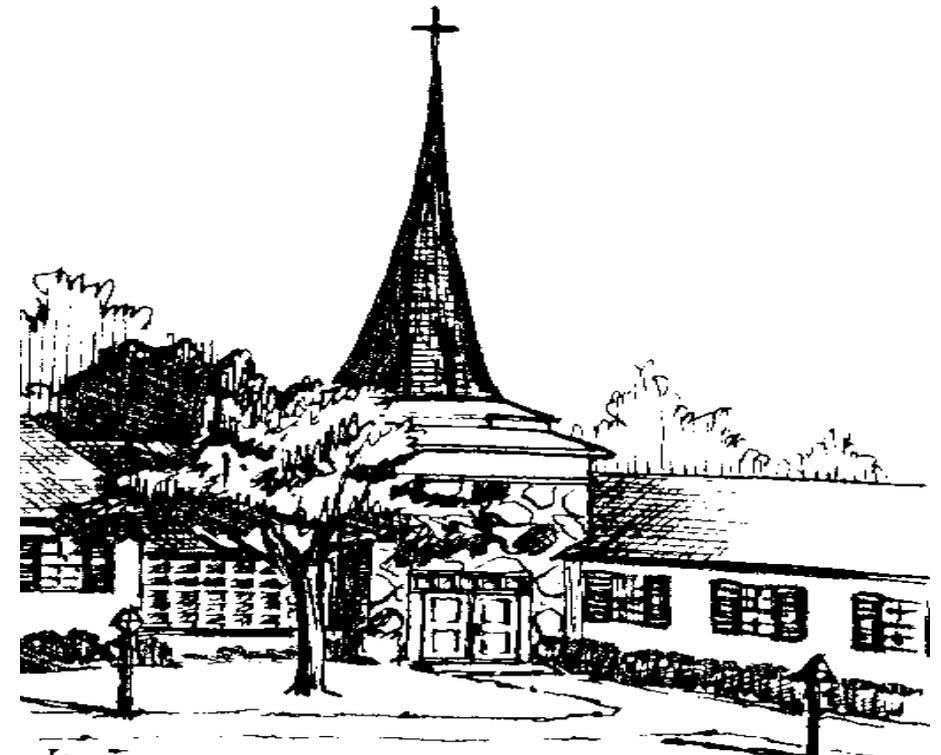
All: Thanks be to God.

# ***WELCOME!***

## **Church Covenant**

**We are banded together as a Christian Church to maintain the worship of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer; to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to develop in ourselves and others a consciousness of our relationship and duties to God and each other; to create a spirit of love for truth, a passion for righteousness and enthusiasm for service; to respect and protect all of God's creation. To this end we pledge our loyalty to Christ and covenant with God and with each other to strive to express God's spirit in our individual and corporate life; to live together as Christians and to submit ourselves to the government of this church, working, giving, praying for its increase, purity and peace, seeking in every way to make it a power for the building up of the Kingdom of God.**

*August 16, 2020*



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