



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 11, 2020

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

A Child Is Born
© 1969 by D'Accord Music

Thad Jones

The Introit Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice.

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: John Darwall, 1770; harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1889, alt.*

The Call to Worship

Leader: Praise the Lord. Give thanks for God's goodness.

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

**People: Save us, O Lord, and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name,
and glory in your praise.**

Leader: Come and worship God!

The Hymn No. 443

O God Who Shaped Creation

using tune AURELIA

1. O God who shaped creation at earth's chaotic dawn,
your word of power was spoken, and lo! the dark was gone!
You framed us in your image, you brought us into birth,
you blessed our infant footsteps and shared your splendored earth.
2. O God, with pain and anguish a mother sees her child
embark on dead end pathways, alluring, but defiled;
so too your heart is broke when hate and lust increase,
when words you birthed and nurtured spurn ways that lead to peace.
3. Although your heart is broken when people scorn your ways,
you never cease your searching through evil's darksome maze;
and when we cease our running, your joys, O God, abound
like joy of searching woman when treasured coin is found.

4. O God, when trinkets tarnish and pleasures lose their charm,
when, wearied by our wandering, we seek your opened arm,
with motherlike compassion you share your warm embrace;
you set for us a banquet and heal us through your grace.
5. In mercy and compassion your goodness is revealed;
with tenderness you touch us, and broken hearts are healed.
You claim us as your children, you strip our prideful shame;
with freedom born of mercy we bless your holy name!

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The Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: God of mercy, in our impatience for answers,
we sometimes turn to idols of our own making
and forget our covenant with you.
Passionate for what is right,
we wrong those with whom we differ.
Pleased at the invitation to your banquet,
we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving.
Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

The Words of Assurance

Do not worry; the Lord is near.
God hears our prayers with compassion
and with abundant, steadfast love.
Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

The Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 32:1-14

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalter pages 829-830 with response

Psalm 106:1-12, 19-23, 47-48

[The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone. All other responses will be sung by everyone.]

Response:

Folliot S. Pierpoint
Conrad Kocher

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Response

- 1 Praise the Lord!
**O give thanks to the Lord who is good;
whose steadfast love endures for ever!**
- 2 Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,
or show forth all God's praise?
- 3 **Blessed are they who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times!**
- 4 Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people;
help me when you deliver them,
- 5 **that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,
that I may glory with your heritage.**

Response

- 6 Both we and our forebears have sinned;
we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.
- 7 **Our forebears, when they were in Egypt,
did not consider your wonderful works;**
they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love,
but rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.
- 8 **God saved them for the sake of his holy name,
to make known the mighty power of God.**
- 9 God rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry;
and led them through the deep as through a desert.
- 10 **So God saved them from the hand of the foe,
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.**
- 11 And the waters covered their adversaries;
not one of them was left.
- 12 **Then they believed God's words;
they sang God's praise.**

Response

- 19 They made a calf in Horeb
and worshiped a molten image.
- 20 **They exchanged the glory of God
for the image of an ox that eats grass.**
- 21 They forgot God, their Savior,
who had done great things in Egypt,
- 22 **wondrous works in the land of Ham,
and terrible things by the Red Sea.**
- 23 Therefore the Lord intended to destroy them
had not Moses, his chosen one,
stood in the breach,
to turn away God's wrath from destroying them.
- 47 **Save us, O Lord our God,
and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.**
- 48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!

And let all the people say, "Amen!"
Praise the Lord!

Response

The Epistle Lesson

Philippians 4:1-9

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Hymn No. 151

God Created Heaven and Earth

using tune CANTERBURY

1. God created heaven and earth,
all things perfect brought to birth;
God's great power made dark and light,
earth revolving day and night.
2. Let us praise God's mercy great;
all our needs that love await;
God who fashions all that lives
to each one a blessing gives.
3. God is one, will ever be;
idols are mere vanity;
handmade gods of wood and clay
cannot help us when we pray.
4. But God's grace beyond compare
saves us all from death's despair;
so earth's creatures small and great
give thanks for that blessed state.

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Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.
People:



The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:1-14

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People:



The Sermon

It's Not Hard to Lose Your Way

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Anthem

O Give Thanks

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
for His mercy endureth forever.

Psalm 106:1

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

The Hymn No. 398

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me!"
2. As of old the apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more!"
4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these!"
5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.

The Benediction

The Choral Response

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear th' archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: John Darwall, 1770; harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1889, alt.*

The Postlude

All People that on Earth Do Dwell

Johann Pachelbel

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Singers:	Emily Downey, Lynn Kotrady Todd Minnich, Sam Cook

Scriptures

Exodus 32:1-14

The Golden Calf

32 When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.”² Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.”³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron.⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.”⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’”⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’”¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Philippians 4:1-9

⁴ ¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Exhortations

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Matthew 22:1-14

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

²² Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”