



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**September 18, 2022**

**Fifteenth 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**      *Song (from Twenty-Four Pieces in Free Style)*      Louis Vierne

**The Introit**      We are the church; Christ bids us show  
that in his church all nations find  
their hearth and home where Christ restores  
true peace, true love to humankind.

*Words copyright James Quinn, S. J., by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell, Ltd. All rights reserved.*

### **The Call to Worship**

Leader: Let your compassion come speedily to meet us,  
for we are brought very low.

**People: Help us, O God of our salvation;  
deliver us and forgive our sins, for our name's sake.**

**All: Let us worship God!**

**The Hymn No. 441**      *What Does the Lord Require*      SHARPTHORNE

1. What does the Lord require for praise and offering?  
What sacrifice, desire or tribute did you bring?  
Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.
2. Rulers of earth, give ear! Should you not justice know?  
Will God your pleading hear while crime and cruelty grow?  
Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.
3. Still down the ages ring the prophet's stern commands:  
to merchant, worker, king, he brings God's high commands:  
do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.
4. How shall our life fulfill God's law so hard and high?  
Let Christ endue our will with grace to fortify.  
Then justly, in mercy, we'll humbly walk with God.

*Text © 1988 Oxford University Press. Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Co.  
Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731785. All rights reserved.*

### **The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Giver of every good and perfect gift, your steadfast love endures forever.  
You redeem the nations from distress and trouble.  
You gather your people from the corners of the earth.**

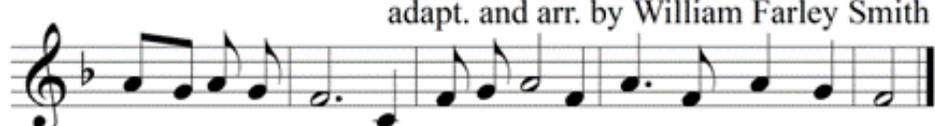
We enter your courts singing thanksgiving  
for the bountiful mercies you lavish upon us.  
Hear our glad praises and be pleased with our worship,  
for you are worthy of all honor. Amen.

**The Psalter pages 741**

Psalm 4

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

Afro-American spiritual  
adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad, to make the wonud-ed whole.

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!  
**You have given me room when I was in distress.  
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.**
- 2 How long, O people, shall my honor suffer shame?  
**How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?**
- 3 But know that the Lord has set apart the righteous as God's own;  
**the Lord hears when I call**

*Response*

- 4 Be angry, but do not sin;  
**commune with your own hearts in your beds, and be silent.**
- 5 Offer right sacrifices,  
**and put your trust in the Lord.**
- 6 There are many who say,  
"O that we might see some good!  
**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord!"**
- 7 You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.
- 8 **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.**

*Response*

**The Gospel Lesson**

Luke 16:1-13

**The Hymn No. 2149**

*Living for Jesus*

LIVING FOR JESUS

1. Living for Jesus a life that is true,  
striving to please him in all that I do,  
yielding allegiance glad-hearted and free,  
this is the pathway of blessing for me.

*Refrain*

O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to thee;  
for thou in thy atonement didst give thyself for me.  
I own no other master, my heart shall be thy throne,  
my life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for thee alone.

2. Living for Jesus, who died in my place,  
bearing on Calvary my sin and disgrace,  
such love constrains me to answer his call,  
follow his leading, and give him my all. *Refrain*
3. Living for Jesus wherever I am,  
doing each duty in his holy name,  
willing to suffer affliction or loss,  
deeming each trial a part of my cross. *Refrain*
4. Living for Jesus through earth's little while,  
my dearest treasure, the light of his smile,  
seeking the lost ones he died to redeem,  
bringing the weary to find rest in him. *Refrain*

**The Sermon**

*Lessons from a Dishonest Teacher*

Dr. Matt Bates

**The Offertory Prayer**

**The Offertory Anthem**

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Lauren Maho, soprano

William L. Dawson

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain.  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *Refrain*

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
and if you look for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*

If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul,  
just tell the love of Jesus, and say he died for all. *Refrain*

**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. 396***O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ANGEL'S STORY

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee  
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

**The Benediction**

**The Choral Response**    Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth  
this world of time to consecrate;  
this world of sin by grace to heal,  
Christ's world in Christ to recreate.

*Words © James Quinn, S. J., by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell, Ltd. All rights reserved.*

**The Postlude***Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

Afro-American Spiritual

*The altar flowers this morning are given in honor of  
Mama's, Libby Rhame, 91<sup>st</sup> birthday by Mitzi Golod.*

*Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning  
by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).*

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning  
and throughout the week to make this worship possible.*

# Scriptures

## Luke 16:1-13

### The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup> He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

## *Welcome!*

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

# *Announcements*

**PECAN SALE** - It's that time again! Get your orders in and support the United Methodist Women! We are ordering in early September so we will get them in early November, as soon as they are harvested. *No price increase this year! Still just \$12/bag.*

- Mammoth Halves
- Medium pieces
- Chocolate covered
- Dark chocolate covered
- Cinnamon glazed.

To order, contact the church office.

**PRIDEFEST** - On Saturday, September 24, Centenary will have a booth at *PrideFest 2022*. We will join with our LGBTQ sisters and brothers in celebrating diversity and proclaiming God's limitless love as PrideFest resumes after a two year hiatus. Sign up to participate in this opportunity to share Centenary's welcome for ALL! There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. For more information, please contact Rev. Pat Shipley.

# *Upcoming Events*

## **THIS WEEK**

|                     |                                   |   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>September 19</b> | <b>5:00 pm</b>                    | Change the World/RVA                            |
| <b>September 20</b> | <b>Noon</b>                       | AA  |
| <b>September 21</b> | <b>10:00 am</b><br><b>7:15 pm</b> | Wednesday Bible Study – Zoom<br>Choir Rehearsal |
| <b>September 23</b> | <b>10:30 am</b>                   | Friday Lunch Program                            |
| <b>September 24</b> | <b>Noon</b>                       | Pridefest 2022                                  |
| <b>September 25</b> | <b>10:30 am</b>                   | In-person and Livestream Worship                |

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

|                   |                |                      |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| <b>October 8</b>  | <b>9:30 am</b> | Rise Against Hunger  |
| <b>October 18</b> | <b>7:00 pm</b> | Charge Conference    |
| <b>October 20</b> | <b>1:00 pm</b> | UMW - Smethie Circle |