

USING OUR TALENTS



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 15, 2020

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *O God, the gift of your Son is the life-changing treasure that is truly beyond all value. Your generosity and goodness astound us! Inspire us to teach your commandments and share your gospel, that all may enter into the joy of Christ. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Prelude on KREMSEK* Held
Dr. Terry McRoberts

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 95:1-2, 5-6)** *Rev. Courtney Bowen*

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord.

People: *Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

People: *Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!*

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

People: *For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand. Let us worship God.*

MUSIC *Chorale Prelude on LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER* Bach
Dr. Terry McRoberts

) PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. John White

God you are merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Yet we test the limits of your grace, constantly turning away from you and toward that which is evil in your sight. We do not understand our own actions, why we know what is right but do what is wrong despite your clear commandments. In a world awash in hate and fear, we are to be those who love others and trust you. Forgive us when instead we resemble the worst rhetoric of our culture rather than the compassion of our Lord. We place ourselves before you, asking again for your transformative grace, honest in our confession because we know you will not abandon us. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. John White

Leader: Our God is merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. God hears our confession and responds with forgiveness and mercy. Friends, believe the good news and be at peace.

People: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.*

THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. John White

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 25:14-30
(page 28 in the pew Bibles)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

SERMON

“Using Our Talents”

Rev. Courtney Bowen

RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from “The Confession of 1967”(Inclusive)*

Rev. John White

God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator. God has created human beings for a personal relation with himself that they may respond to the love of the Creator. God has created male and female and given them a life which proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations. God has endowed humans with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

MUSIC

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Nick Zerfoss, soloist

Gounod

**Congregation standing, if able*

OFFERING

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. John White
OLD HUNDREDTH

Rev. Courtney Bowen

SENDING

*CHARGE

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Hymn to Joy"
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Wagner