

⁴⁴ And whoever wishes to be first among you must be a slave to all.

⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

MARK 10:44-45

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 17, 2021

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.*

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE

O for a Thousand Tongues
Sally Smith

arr. Marilyn Arison

INTROIT

God Is So Good
Campanile Ensemble

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Jeff Chambers

One: God of all blessings, you bless us richly.

ALL: *God of all love, you love us wholly.*

One: God of forgiveness, you forgive us entirely.

ALL: *God who speaks in language beyond words, you call us tenderly.*

One: God of compassion, you nurture us patiently.

ALL: *God of righteousness, you challenge us fiercely.*

One: God of our hearts, you move us profoundly.

ALL: *God of our lives, we recognize the power of your Spirit in this place, and we listen for your word. Amen.*

*HYMN OF PRAISE: 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ELLECOMBE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

Once, daunted by the challenges of faithfulness, Jesus's disciples asked urgently, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For humans it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God."

Trusting in God who longs to mend our broken places, let us turn to God in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)*

Rev. John White

Gracious God,

Sometimes we expect that you will do what we want, that you will do whatever we ask.

Often we want places of honor and glory.

Often we want to be great.

Often we want to be first. And we shun those who are last.

But then we see the Christ, who was servant of all.

In his life, we see truth. We see your Kingdom.

(continued)

*Forgive our pride. Forgive our self-importance. Forgive us.
Teach us to be humble. And re-create us as those who are more like you.
Through Christ we pray, Amen.*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(Based on Mark 10:45)*

Rev. John White

Family of God,
Our hope is in the Son of Man, who came not to be served but to serve,
And who gave his life as a ransom for our own.
In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the debt of our sin has been paid,
And we have been freed for new life. In Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *(Hymn #581)*

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.*

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Rev. John White

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION, *John and Laura Griffith*

Rev. John White

(Sing in unison)

*Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.*

MINUTE FOR MISSION: A WAY TO LOVE

Elder Patty Smith

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ACT OF PRAISE

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Campanile Ensemble

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

MUSIC

Precious Lord
Chancel Choir Interns

arr. Sevier

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. John White

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 38:1-18
(Page 484)

Rev. John White

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 10:35-45
(Page 47)

Elder Jeff Chambers

SERMON

“Pale Blue Dot”

Rev. John White

OFFICER PRESENTATION OF PLEDGE CARDS

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*A Creed from Colossians 1:15-23*)

Elder Jeff Chambers

One: Who is Jesus Christ?

ALL: *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once we were alienated from God, but now God has reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in his sight. Thanks be to God!*

(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Andante” on HYFRYDOL
Sally Smith

Rev. John White
arr. Charles Callahan

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: 41** *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above*

LYONS

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Be with You
Campanile Ensemble

arr. Francis L. Callahan

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power
Sally Smith

arr. Marilyn Arison