

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

Pastor: God had a purpose for Jesus' life, and Jesus strongly believed it involved taking up his cross and dying on it.

People: It can be debated whether Jesus had to be crucified as part of God's salvation plan; but for Jesus himself there was no question that the most powerful expression of God's love he could make was to offer up his life for our sakes.

Pastor: God has a purpose for our lives, too. Even now a divine plan is being worked out in and through us, which we will not fully understand until we see the Lord face-to-face.

People: Only God knows what His ultimate intention for us is. Ours is not so much to know what God's plan is but to trust in it, because the God who made it is completely trustworthy and true.

Pastor: Let us worship the Lord as God's plan for us continues to unfold.

#HYMN #18 Praise to the Living God

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison):

We greet you, welcoming God, with our various morning moods. Some of us could not wait to get here, and some of us just made it. Some of us know why we have come, and others are not sure. But we have all been called into your presence today and are here to commune with you and worship you. Dear Lord, we do not know what your plan for us is today, let alone for the rest of our lives, but knowing you have one allows us to move into the future with anticipation, confidence and hope. Open our hearts and minds and help us discern what you want to say to us and where you want to take us. We pray that you will make yourself known in a powerful way through our words, songs and prayers, so we can leave this place knowing your hand has touched us. We ask these things in the name of Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray like this, saying

#PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (Unison)

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, for ever. Amen.

#GLORIA PATRI (Unison):

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS Jonah 3:1-10 and Mark 9:30-37 (Bible pages?)

SERMON MESSAGE: God's Plan Rev. Gagnon

HYMN #445 *Be Thou My Vision*

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Invitation to Pray and Receiving the Prayer Request Slips
Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer
Organ Response

OFFERTORY

Offertory Invitation
Offertory Music
Doxology (#45 – 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.

#Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Caring God, even though you have a plan for us, you do not want us to simply wait and wonder what you are up to; rather, you want us to actively participate in it and assist you in making it successful. So we bring you these offerings to be blessed and used toward accomplishing your will in the world. Bless what we have given, that the needs of many may be met in ways that bring, hope, grace and love to your children. Amen.

#HYMN #419 *My Faith It Is an Oaken Staff*

BENEDICTION

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Pastor: God has a plan and a purpose for you. Although that plan is a mystery, trust that the Lord is in control and walk into the future with courage and hope.

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People: There is more to discover than we will ever know, but with the Lord as our teacher and guide we can understand enough to accomplish the work God has for us to do.

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Pastor: God is always nearer than our next breath. In the coming week, may you be more aware of that divine presence.

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People: We discover the Lord in the midst of creation and see God's face in the faces of the people around us.

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

POSTLUDE