

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

Eleven O'clock

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 19: 16-26

Then someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 402 "How Lovely, Lord"

SERMON *What Does the Lord Require of Us?*
Dr. James Thomas

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.

OFFERTORY "Aria from J.S. Bach's Violin Sonata No. 3" arr. L. Godowsky
Guest Musician: Tomasz Robak

Offerings for God's work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Leader: Blessed are you, God of all creation.
Congregation: **Through your goodness we have good gifts to share.**
Leader: Accept and use our offerings for your glory.
Congregation: **And for the service of your kingdom.**
All: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Beginning with Joys and Concerns, and concluding with *The Lord's Prayer, in unison*

HYMN 353 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "No. 1 from 11 Pieces in Religious Style, op. 72" Ch. V. Alkan
Guest Musician: Tomasz Robak

Please remain seated so that all worshippers, in the sanctuary and online, may enjoy the blessing of the music.

GUEST PREACHER

This morning we are pleased to welcome Dr. James Thomas back to the pulpit.

Before retirement Dr. Thomas served as pastor of Clanton/South End Presbyterian Church, and as a member of the executive staff of Charlotte Presbytery. He has also held pastorates in Georgia, Nebraska and Ohio. We are grateful for his leadership this morning.

WELCOME INTO GOD'S HOUSE (responsive)

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me....
Congregation: **Let us go into the house of the Lord!**
Leader: Within the gates of God's holy city, we gather this day to claim the joy, the peace and the safe rest of the children of the Most High. Let us rejoice in God's holy gifts.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "Confidence, op. 19 no. 4" F. Mendelssohn
Guest Musician: Tomasz Robak

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 145

I will exalt you, O God my Ruler,
and bless your name forever and ever.
Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
there is no end, O God, to your greatness.

HYMN 645 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison)

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your Word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that, believing in the One whom you have sent, we may know him to be the true bread of heaven and food of eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory and honor forever and ever. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS