

Words for Worship Sunday, October 18, 2020

(recorded October 15, 2020)

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Lord God, we are by nature fallen, sinful, and prone to wander away. Yet, in Your grace, You faithfully seek us out with Your love and forgiveness. We repent and eagerly desire the new life only Christ can offer. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We give You thanks, O God, for today's joyous worship celebration of faith and life, for the energy and spirit of youthfulness and for the upbuilding wisdom of the mature, for teachers and mentors of the faith, and for entrusting us with the calling and responsibility of being Christ's church together. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

#810, verses 1, 2 & 4

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| 1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me,
my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide. | 2 Oh, let me feel you 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, then draw nearer
to shield my soul from sin. |
| 4 O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you
that where you are in glory
your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
oh, give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend. | |

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.

SCRIPTURE

Lector: Isaac Herman

1st Corinthians 12:12, 14-18, 26-27

At confirmation we remember that we each have an important role in being the body of Christ together as the church.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body.

²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Matthew 28:20

[Jesus said,] "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

CONFIRMATION REFLECTIONS: Rosemary Shepherd, Emily Dehn, Deanna Becker, Sara Graff

These confirmation students volunteered to share their witness of their Christian faith journey at Ascension.

OFFERING PRAYER

Trustworthy Lord, You have abundantly shared with us so that we may share with others. Accept these our offerings by which Your good work is done through our ministries and beyond. Amen.

PRAYERS

We pray using the response, "**C: May we be rooted in Christ.**"

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Borning Cry

#732

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| 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell." | 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun." |
| 3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise." | 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold." |
- Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
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