



BLESSED TO SHARE THE BLESSING IN THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

16th Sunday after Pentecost 9/20



Pastor

Robert M. Portier

Pastor Emeritus

Linsey H. Dettmer

Choir Director

Gary McCaffity

Organists

Barbara Jones &

Jolanta Didenko

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Worship

Saturday 6 PM

Sunday: 8:30 & 11 AM

Wednesday: 6 PM

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I desire to

DEPART

and be with Christ,
which is better by far;

but it is
more necessary
for you that I

REMAIN

in the body.

PHILIPPIANS 1:23-24, NIV

Hymn of Invocation

720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight LSB 720

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight,
 No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
 But we believe Him near.

- 2 We may not touch His hands and side,
 Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
 And cry "My Lord and God!"

- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
 And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
 And seek where You are found.

- 4 For You, O resurrected Lord,
 Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
 Beneath the bread and wine.

- 5 Lord, when our life of faith is done,
 In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
 With full and endless sight.

Confession and Absolution *Setting 4 begins on page 203*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have

sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit *Responsively Read*

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

**What shall I render | to the LORD*
for all his bene- | fits to me?**

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

**Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.**

O LORD, I am your | servant;*

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

Kyrie (*Lord*)

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Refrain
Leader All

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing Through the Word in - vit - ing,
Of - fer - ing for - give - ness, Com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

1 Je - sus gave His man - date: Share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten Through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, Stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

That He came to save us And set us free.
In the tri - une name of God Go and bap - tize.
Walk - ing in Your pre - cepts, Led by Your Word.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 55:6-9

“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27:1-9 *Responsively Read*

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I | be afraid?

**When evildoers assail me
to eat | up my flesh,*
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stum- | ble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me,
my heart | shall not fear;*
though war arise against me,
yet I will be | confident.

**One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek | after:***
**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his | temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of | trouble;*
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

**And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with | shouts of joy;***
I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

Hear, O LORD, when I | cry aloud;*
be gracious to me and | answer me!
You have said, | “Seek my face.”*
My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, | do I seek.”
Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in | anger,*
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my sal- | vation!

Epistle Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

♪ Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C 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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

705 The Man Is Ever Blessed

- 1 The man is ever blessed
Who shuns the sinners' ways,
Among their counsels never stands,
Nor takes the scorners' place,
- 2 But makes the Law of God
His study and delight
Amid the labors of the day
And watches of the night.
- 3 He like a tree shall thrive,
With waters near the root;
Fresh as the leaf his name shall live,
His works are heav'nly fruit.
- 4 Not so the wicked race,
They no such blessings find;
Their hopes shall flee like empty chaff
Before the driving wind.

- 5 How will they bear to stand
Before the judgment seat
Where all the saints at Christ's right hand
In full assembly meet?
- 6 He knows and He approves
The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet
A dreadful overthrow.

Sermon

Pre-communion Litany

Inside front cover

Prayer of the Church

Offering (Please place your offering in the white box as you enter or depart)
(As we sing the offertory pastor raises the offering plate as a wave offering for all of our tithes and offerings given in person or by mail or via the internet)

♫ **Offertory** *(Sing as the offering is brought forward)*

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary evermore praising You and saying:

♩ Sanctus (*Holy*)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini (*Peace of the Lord*)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

♩ Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

♩ Post Communion Cantic: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee 632

1	O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be, Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.	2	Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day! My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!
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Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction (*We Bless & Blessing*)

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling LSB 827

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?

- 2 Some take up His task in morning,
To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday,
Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting,
Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty
That God’s Word so richly yields.

- 3 For as rain and snow from heaven
Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower,
Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise,
Words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning,
Bearing fruit with great increase.
- 4 Hearken to the Lord whose coming
Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers
He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest;
Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered
Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

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