

## **November 15, 2015 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Invitation to Worship** (For the Assisting Minister; Also printed in the bulletin)

*Please lead the Invitation to Worship by being familiar with the text and looking up and, as needed, referring to the monitor screen at the rear of the room. We hope this example will help worshipers to also raise their heads and use the overhead screens at the front of the sanctuary.*

*Say to the congregation,*

Please join me in the Invitation to Worship.

Come, let us give thanks to God!

**We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak  
and hears the prayers of the forgotten.**

Come, let us give thanks to Christ!

**We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those  
who are hungry and alone at this time of year.**

Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit!

**We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love  
not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.**

Let us worship God.

### **Welcome (Scott)**

- General welcome
- Sermon/worship theme today (post slide image for reflection)
- Re-Introduce change in Prayers of the People (New format started Sept. 27)
  - Written prayer slips are available; you may mark them Confidential if you want it shared with a pastor only.
  - The prayer slips will be shared with the pastors and the prayer team as you designate (They will not be specifically verbally included in today's prayers.)
  - The Assisting Minister will open the time of prayer with a general introduction and invitation to pray one's thanksgivings and concerns either silently or aloud.
  - The pastor will conclude the time of prayer.
- "After a time of silent reflection, we will continue in worship."

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Scott)**

### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE** (Instructions for Assisting Minister, which are new as of Sept. 27)

**Sequence in worship:** *The ushers will bring forward the Communion elements and the offering plates. The offering plates will have any prayer requests that worshipers have written. The Assisting Minister (AM) and pastor will receive these from the ushers and hold them while the pastor prays, thanking God for both the monetary gifts and the prayer requests.*

*After the prayer, the AM and pastor will place the plates and Communion elements on the Communion Table/Altar and then the AM will introduce the Prayers of the People as he or she and the pastor stand behind the table.*

**Introduction/Instructions for the congregation:** *Say something like the following in your own words to introduce the prayers:*

- We are invited into a time of prayer to express our thanks, to pray for concerns of ourselves and others for the church, for the world and for those in need.
- We are invited to include our joys and thanksgivings, our sorrows and burdens as we pray either silently or aloud.
- If you pray aloud, please conclude your petition with the phrase, “Lord, in your mercy, to which we will all respond, “Hear our prayer.”

*Begin the time of prayer using these or similar words:*

- Lord, hear us as we offer you our joys and thanksgivings and the concerns of our hearts. . . *or*
- Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray, so we offer these petitions in his name. . .  
*or*
- God our Creator, guide us by your Holy Spirit, that these prayers may serve your will and show your love for the world. . . *or*
- Mighty God, whose Word we trust and whose Spirit enables us to pray, hear our requests as we pray them silently or aloud. . .

*Our petitions should include prayers for the Church universal and for TLPC; for community or local concerns; for peace and justice in the world and for those who govern; and for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Please be prepared to pray for one of these areas if you do not hear it offered aloud by a TLPC worshiper. You of course may include additional prayers of your own during the time of open prayer.*

*The pastor will conclude the time of prayer.*

**FIRST READING** (Lector, read responsively with congregation)

*This psalm is a mixture of prayer and a profession of faith as the psalmist expresses trust in God for providing protection and refuge.*

**Psalm 16**

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

**I have set the LORD always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**SECOND READING** (Lector) *Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. In today's reading, the author of Hebrews continues to drive home his deep conviction that Jesus Christ's offering on the cross has removed the need for priests to offer sacrifices in the temple to take away sins. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.*

### **Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25**

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL READING** (Scott)

As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer of Dedication** (Scott—after offering)

(Pray also to acknowledge the written prayer slips)