

## **October 18, 2015 21st Sunday After Pentecost**

### **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.

### **Welcome (Scott)**

- General welcome
- Sermon/worship theme today (post slide image for reflection)
  - In Today's gospel reading, brothers James and John ask for Jesus for a special favor—to sit in places of honor by his side. We want to scold them for being fixated on status and power—until we see the same tendency in ourselves.
- 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)

Adapted from Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,

God's mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

great is God's faithfulness.

Brothers and sisters, you are loved and forgiven,

Renewed and restored by God.

Go and do the same for others

by showing mercy, forgiveness and love. Amen.

### **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 - Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b (For Lector to read responsively with the congregation)**

*Please join me in reading Psalm 91 responsively.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great.

**You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment.**

You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind,

**you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.**

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

**You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.**

At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

**They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them.**

You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

**O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of**

**your creatures.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL READING** (Scott) Mark 10:32-45

*Mark 10:32-45*

*A Third Time Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection*

[The disciples] were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.'

*The Request of James and John*

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

(Pray also to acknowledge the written prayer slips)

**Invitation to the Table: (Scott)**

Jesus says: 'I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

**Benediction (Scott)**