

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
June 21, 2020
The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*While in-person Worship services are suspended, Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be recording services. The following is an order of service that you can use to follow along with the recorded service, or use to read and reflect on your own. **Please join in the hymn and the responses!** The service will be posted on the church's Facebook page and You Tube. An email will be sent with links to the recorded service and the link will also appear on the church's website, www.mpchurch.net . Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship[†]

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

We live sustained by God's presence and love.

Thanks be to God.

As we mourn the wounds of God's children,

God weeps with us.

As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith,

God give thanks with us.

As we struggle for justice,

God struggles with us.

As we strive for peace,

God strives with us.

As we work to build the beloved community,

God works with us.

As we offer our gifts to all,

God blesses us.

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

Sustained by God's presence and love we worship God.

Hymn

Call to Reconciliation

1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is merciful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God:

- **You call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil.**
- **You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation.**
- **You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.**
- **You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.**

Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News!

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in you will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Romans 6:1-11

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Second Reading

Matthew 10:24-39

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

The grass withers and the flower fades,
But the word of our God endures forever.

Thanks be to God!

Message

Elder Stephen Thiel

Affirmation of Faith

From the Belhar Confession

We believe

- that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
- that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;
- that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;

- that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;
- that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;
- that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;
- that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged;
- that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

... And now hear us as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our debts
 as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation
 but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Blessing and Charge

May the God of glory, the Lord of life, and the Spirit of truth be with you all.

Amen.

God has shown you what is good.

What does the Lord require of you?

To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Amen.

Postlude

†The Call to Worship is from the Presbyterian Church USA website.

https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/peacemaking/pdf/mlk-resources.pdf