

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 22, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Thomas Weitzel

Liturgist: For everything there is a season:

Congregation: And a time for every matter under heaven:

L: A time to be born and a time to die.

C: A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

L: A time to break down, and a time to build up.

C: A time to weep and a time to laugh.

L: A time to keep and a time to throw away.

C: A time to be silent and a time to speak.

L: A time to love and a time to hate.

C: A time for war and a time for peace.

L: God has made everything suitable for its time.

C: God has put a sense of past and future into our minds.

L: God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.

C: Whatever God does endures forever.

L: Let us worship God.

*HYMN

Morning Has Broken

664

*CALL TO CONFESSION

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin. |

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.

We reflect in silence on the ways we have fallen short.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

582

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 your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Be Strong in the Lord

Gay and Paul Piller

SECOND READING

Numbers 27:1-11

Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of Hopher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh son of Joseph, a member of the Manassite clans. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and they said, "Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin; and he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers."

Moses brought their case before the LORD. And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among

their father's brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them. You shall also say to the Israelites, "If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. If he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. If he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father's brothers. And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a statute and ordinance, as the LORD commanded Moses."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Ben Shaw

***HYMN**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

65

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Per COVID-19 safety measures, we will not pass the offering plate for some time. As you feel called, you may leave your offering in the plate in the Gathering Room or donate online at MPChurch.net.

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

... And now hear 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.

***HYMN**

For the Fruit of All Creation

36

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

POSTLUDE

- Music reprinted with permission of CCLI #1895751