

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
August 23, 2020
The Twenty-first 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. It will be posted on either the church's Facebook page and/or the website, www.mpchurch.net. Please check Facebook, the website and emails the church for links to the recorded service. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.

PRELUDE *Lord, I Want to Be A Christian*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Elder of the Month: Beth Doebereiner (675-4295)
- Deacon of the Month: Lois Silber (791-1498)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.
All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

HYMN *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

*I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.*

*They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
and God's love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake,
the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there's not any reason, no, not the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.*

*They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.*

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†

**They may not be beaten down or lying by the road, but there are people we pass by,
Watching God.**

**Some are family and friends we take so much for granted we cannot see how we have
stripped them of our love and compassion.**

**Others are neighbors: who have been left half-dead by crushing work; who have fallen into
the hands of despair; who have been abandoned by all those who walked on by them.**

Many are strangers, people we don't know, but quickly judge: they are weak, or poor, or the enemy or because they remind us of who we once were, or could become.

Rescue us from the power of our sins, Righteous One of all generations. Pour out your justice on us, rather than your judgement, that we would be moved with pity, and spurred to action; that we would hear of the hope that is ours, and share it with our sisters and brothers; that we would shower mercy on all we meet, even as we have received forgiveness for our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, by your Holy Spirit tell us what we need to hear and show us what we ought to do to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:6-14

Moreover, the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, in order that you may live. The Lord your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on the adversaries who took advantage of you. Then you shall again obey the Lord, observing all his commandments that I am commanding you today, and the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC*Seek Ye First*

Maris Ryan and Gay Piller

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!*

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and the shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!*

SECOND READING*Luke 10:25-37*

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Ruling Elder David Bowen

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH*The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

**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

Now to the One who is able
to keep you from falling,
and to make you stand without shame
in the presence of God's glory with rejoicing,
to the only God our Savior,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be glory, majesty, power, and authority,
before all time and now and forever.
Amen.

Proclaim the good news,
Be persistent in prayer,
Do the work of the Gospel,
And carry out the ministry
Of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POSTLUDE *O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

† The Prayer of Confession is by Rev. Thom Shuman and posted on his Lectionary Liturgies page:

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

