

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: *Let mutual love continue.* -Hebrews 13:1

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood

PRELUDE: I. Largo, *Sonata in G minor*.....Henry Eccles (1670-1742)
Vivian Mayers, violin

CALL TO WORSHIP

GENERAL LITURGY 2

Reconciliation

(Standing)

LANCASHIRE (151 M)

With joy - ful - ness and long - ing we look to you, O Lord;
The years have all been crowd - ed with to - kens of your love;

re - ceive us in your mer - cy, and cheer us with your word.
and man - y who have sought you now wor - ship you a - bove.

Crown us with love en - dur - ing and prom - is - es of grace,
But we, O Lord, still need you, our pil - grim feet to stay,

and let your ho - ly bless - ing re - main with - in this place.
for e - vil of - ten tri - umphs as faith to fear gives way.

Almighty God, enthroned above all, you alone are God over the nations of the earth. Even the planets, the stars, and the galaxies are placed by your hand.

**Where could we go from your Spirit? Where could we flee from your presence?
If we go up to the heavens, you are there; if we go down into the caves of the earth or the depths of the sea, you are there.**

God of all creation, we sing praises to your name; we stand jubilant before your glory, power, and beauty.

God of certainty, God of truth, our confidence is in you and in you alone.

Yet we live in a fallen world and we are an imperfect people.

Our world is filled with pain and alienation.

We know of illness when body or mind is failing, and the loneliness of spirit it brings.

We know of separation from parent or child, from friend or neighbor, and the emptiness of life it brings.

We know of strangeness in new communities and in changing communities, and the longing it brings.

We know of alienation caused by unemployment or poverty or discrimination, and the pain it brings.

We have become strangers to our relatives, and foreigners to our own families.

How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? Let our cry for help come to you.

I am a God nearby, says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? I am the Lord your God. I have called you out from the peoples and you shall be holy to me.

We declare your praise, the One who called us out of darkness into your wonderful light. We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to you.

GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the
tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our

God of our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
peace, and joy, and bless - ing, as with a moth - er's ten - der hand, he

ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills. To God all praise and glo - ry!
leads his own, his cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!

GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

[Kneeling or sitting]

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we walk in the way of the indifferent, who depend on their strength alone. We sit among the scornful, who deny the need for your guidance and power. Our hearts are not satisfied with riches vulnerable to moth and rust and thief, yet we zealously store up those very treasures. Set our minds on things unseen and eternal, that our emptiness within may be filled.

We humbly confess that we fail to welcome the stranger among us. We pass by the neighbor who is hungry and thirsty, naked, sick, and in prison. We sing of your healing power and your unconditional love, but we fail to make our sanctuaries true havens for the suffering and the exiled. Give us the will to be ambassadors for our Savior and faithful stewards of the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Amen.

Without Christ we were strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He is our peace.

We are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, with Christ himself as the cornerstone.

Therefore, let us affirm our faith in the Triune God.

[Standing]

We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens and all that is in them; who established a world that was good; who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it; who is certainty and truth.

We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity and knew our life as child, youth, and adult; who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless; who confronted popular opinion and power; who remained obedient in temptation and suffering; whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.

We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate; who does not leave us as orphans; who brings peace and calms the troubled heart; who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles; who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Let us in faith keep our eyes fixed on the promises of God, though we see them and greet them from a distance.

We confess that we are strangers and foreigners on the earth, a people who are seeking our true home.

We desire a better place, that is, a heavenly one. Indeed, God has prepared a city for us.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

EASTHAM

O then what rap - tured greet - ings on Ca - naan's hap - py shore;
Bring near your great sal - va - tion, O Lamb for sin - ners slain;

what knit - ting sev - ered friend - ships up, where part - ings are no more!
fill up the roll of your e - lect, then take your power, and reign!

Then eyes with joy shall spar - kle that brimmed with tears of late, no
Ap - pear, De - sire of na - tions, your ex - iles long for home; show

or - phans left with - out a home, nor mourn - ers des - o - late.
in the heav'n your prom - ised sign, great Prince and Sav - ior, come. A - men.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalm 112

Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

Hebrews 13:1-8

During the singing of the next hymn, children aged 3 and up are welcome to follow Godly Play leaders to continue their worship in CE-106.

THE SCRIPTURES

510 How Shall the Young Direct Their Way?

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, corresponding to the four parts of the choir. The first line of the score includes the lyrics: '1 How shall the young di - rect their way? What light shall', '2 Sin - cere - ly I have sought you, Lord, O let me', '3 O bless - ed Lord, teach me your law, your right - eous', and '4 Up - on your pre - cepts and your ways my heart will'. The second line of the score includes the lyrics: 'be their per - fect guide? Your word, O Lord, will', 'not from you de - part; to know your will and', 'judg - ments I de - clare; your tes - ti - mo - nies', and 'med - i - tate with awe; your word shall be my'. The third line of the score includes the lyrics: 'safe - ly lead if in its wis - dom they con - fide.', 'keep from sin, your word I cher - ish in my heart.', 'make me glad, for they are wealth be - yond com - pare.', and 'chief de - light, and I will not for - get your law.'

1 How shall the young di - rect their way? What light shall
2 Sin - cere - ly I have sought you, Lord, O let me
3 O bless - ed Lord, teach me your law, your right - eous
4 Up - on your pre - cepts and your ways my heart will

be their per - fect guide? Your word, O Lord, will
not from you de - part; to know your will and
judg - ments I de - clare; your tes - ti - mo - nies
med - i - tate with awe; your word shall be my

safe - ly lead if in its wis - dom they con - fide.
keep from sin, your word I cher - ish in my heart.
make me glad, for they are wealth be - yond com - pare.
chief de - light, and I will not for - get your law.

TEXT: Psalm 119:9-16. Versified, *Psalter* (1912), alt.
TUNE: Henry Baker (1866)

L.M.
QUEBEC

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 14:1, 7-14The Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

SERMON: *Guest and Host*

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service 688

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice forth in your dear name we go,

who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
to the child, the youth, the ag-ed, love in liv-ing deeds to show;

we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart,
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
hope and health, good will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,

con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

TEXT: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984). ©1988 by Oxford University Press. Used by permission.
TUNE: *The Sacred Harp* (1844). Harm. A. Royce Eckhardt (1972)
Setting ©1972 by Covenant Press

Alternate setting, hymn 652
8.7.8.7.D.
BEACH SPRING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony. For financial giving online: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Click the DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

OFFERTORY INVITATIONRev. Dr. Atwood
MUSIC OFFERING: III. Adagio, *Sonata in G minor*Henry Eccles (1670-1742)
Vivian Mayers, violin

DOXOLOGY
OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLDRev. Tobiassen
HYMN*Lord, You Teach Us to Be Humble**.....T. Nettleton

Lord, you teach us to be humble in the things we do and say
So that others will not stumble or — discouraged — turn away.
For a faith that's lived for glory — full of bragging, full of show —
Cannot tell the gospel story that your people long to know.

May we never burden others with a faith that's hard to bear.
Make us kind to one another; make us humble in our prayer.
As we give up seats of honor, may we give you glory, too.
Lord, you teach us to be humble; may we humbly follow you.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Hymn 832, *The Grace of Our Lord*

*While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.
We invite you to continue your fellowship as you exit during the postlude.*

SERVICE MUSIC

832 The Grace of Our Lord

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence in 3/4 time. The lyrics are: 'The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ, and the love of God, and the com - mu - nion of the Ho - ly Spir - it, be with us all, be with us all. A - men.'

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 13:13
TUNE: Christian Gregor (1763)

Irregular
(540 E)

POSTLUDE: IV. Presto, *Sonata in G minor*.....Henry Eccles (1670-1742)
Vivian Mayers, violin

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SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

GODLY PLAY, CE-106, 10:20 a.m. (ages 3 and up), *The Pharisee and the Publican* **BIBLE DISCUSSION**, 11:15 a.m., Club Room and Zoom

YOUTH POWER HOUR, 11:15 a.m., Lot 63

NO CHILDREN'S POWER HOUR (meetings resume on September 14)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you. After the service, pick up a beverage in the serving room off the Sanctuary, and enjoy fellowship.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today in memory of *Josephine and Horace Vance* by Jody Avery, Buddy Vance, Kate Hix, Betty Lineberger, and Randy Vance.

Large print bulletins are available. See an usher for assistance.

We thank Vivian Mayers for sharing her musical gifts in worship today.

CALENDAR

- Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
 - 10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
 - 10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
 - 11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room
 - 11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom
 - Youth Power Hour, Lot 63
- Monday - Church Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday Tuesday
- 6:30 p.m. - Beginner Band Rehearsal, RB-5
 - 7:00 p.m. - Elders Meeting, CE-101
 - 7:30 p.m. - Chorale Band Rehearsal, RB-5
- Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant
 - 2:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Parlor
 - 4:00 p.m. - World Missions Team, Parlor
 - Wednesday Night Fellowship Team, CE-101
- Thursday - 11:30 a.m. - Men of the Church Lunch, Club Room
 - 2:00 p.m. - Flute Choir, RB-5
 - 5:30 p.m. - Handbell Rehearsal, Bell Room
 - 6:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal, RB-5
- Friday - 12:00 p.m. - Salem Bach Festival Concert, Sanctuary
- Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - Women's Fellowship Walk, Salem Lake
 - 3:00 p.m. - Salem Bach Festival, Sanctuary
 - 7:30 p.m. - Salem Bach Festival, Lot 63
- Next Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
 - 10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
 - 10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
 - 11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room
 - Reception for HMC Members Aged 90 and Above, Parlor
 - 11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom
 - Youth Power Hour, CE Building
 - 3:00 p.m. - Salem Bach Festival, Sanctuary

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Men of the Church Retreat at Laurel Ridge is scheduled for September 26-28. For more information contact Ray Gatland at: 336-918-3754. Scholarships available.

Become an Art for Albania volunteer! Help will be needed with setup on October 8, 9, and 10 and with the actual event on October 11 (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.). Sign up at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B44A9A728AAFB6-57809263-artfor>

PERSONALS

We embrace with sympathy:

Mark Watson, whose father, Ron Watson, died on August 20.

Gigi (m.n. Goslen) and Riley Burgiss, whose infant sons, Oliver and Kemp Burgiss, died on August 15 and August 20.

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor*

Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor*

Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music*

Jonathan Williams, *Organist*

Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation*

Philip Montgomery, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*

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(10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)