10/25/2020

Sunday: Proper 25, Year A

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or even you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper the work of our hands- O prosper the work of our hands!

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

The works of our hands are gifts of your mercy, O God, and everything we have is a sign of your love. If we have strength, it is because you uplift us; when we have joy, it is on account of your grace. We praise you when you comfort us. We are afraid when you judge us in anger. With Christ to intercede, accept now our worship. May it be worthy of the care you show us. Amen.

HYMN: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (203)

CALL TO CONFESSION

LITANY OF CONFESSION:

We are taught to love you, O God, with all our heart.

We confess that our allegiance is less than complete.

We are taught to love you, O God, with all our soul.

We confess that we long to have our own way.

We are taught to love you, O God, with all our mind.

We confess that our thoughts are seldom so pure.

We are taught to love our neighbors, as we love ourselves.

We confess preference for ourselves being first.

God have mercy upon us as we make our confession.

Christ have mercy upon us and forgive our sin.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

In Christ "the fullness of God" was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile . . . all things, . . . making peace through the blood of his cross." Know that in Christ you have been reconciled so that through him you are presented holy and blameless to God. Therein lies our assurance of pardon. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE (honking horns, waving)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:34-46

PRE-SERMON PRAYER

SERMON: No Matter What

POST-SERMON PRAYER

HYMN: Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (729)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (from "the Heidelberg Catechism", 4.105-4.017) What is God's will for you in the sixth commandment?

I am not aloud to belittle, insult, hate, or kill my neighbor- not by my thoughts, my words, my look or gesture, and certainly not by actual deeds- and I am not to be party to this in other; rather, I am to put away all desire for revenge. I am not to harm or recklessly endanger myself either . . .

Does this commandment refer only to murder?

By forbidding murder God teaches us that he hates the root of murder: envy, hatred, anger, vindictiveness. In God's sight all such are disguised forms of murder.

Is it enough then that we do not murder our neighbor in any such way?

No. By condemning envy, hatred, and anger, God wants us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to be patient, peace-loving, gently, merciful, and friendly towards them, to protect them from harm as much as we can, and to do good even to our enemies.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to proclaim and demonstrate the inclusiveness of God's Love to the people of the Ozarks and the needy of the world.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

O God, you call us as stewards to take care of your creation. As we till its soil, help us also to replenish and nurture the earth. As we sow seeds for tomorrow's crops, teach us the meaning of patience and hope. As we reap the harvest, guide us to see that all your people are fed. Amen.

HYMN: O Christ, Surround Me (543)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TRIPLE "AMEN" (601)

POSTLUDE