

SAINT PAUL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4517 Rufe Snow Dr. North Richland Hills, TX 76180

817-281-3175

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

PRELUDE

Barbara Compher

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Ken Ehrke

CHORAL INTROIT

GRACE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (ask the people to stand if able)

Liturgist

Leader: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!

People: Great is our God and greatly to be praised.

Leader: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!

People: This generation will tell the next generation so they may tell the next generation of the Holy One's magnificent and mighty acts.

Leader: Bless the name of the Holy and Sovereign One forever and ever!

People: We declare the abundant goodness, gracious righteousness, and holy love of our God. Praise the Holy One!

***INVOCATION PRAYER**

Unison: Mighty God, we enter your presence with thanksgiving and hope. You have formed us as your people. You join us on the journey of life through valleys, upon mountains, and on the plains. We set our attention and seek your wisdom, encouragement, and grace. Reveal your will and display your glory among your people as we worship your holy name. Amen.

***HYMN #81P**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist

Our hearts long for God, and we know we fall short of God's glory, so let us now confess to God the ways we have individually and collectively fallen short of God's Grace. Please pray with me...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist

Unison: God of abundance, forgive us for embracing a worldview that capitalizes on scarcity. Help us to know that you have given us enough for our journey. You have created us wonderfully and uniquely. Forgive us for comparing ourselves with our neighbor when we are called to love them. Help us to embrace how you have made us as individuals who may bring our singular gifts to our common life.

HYMN #68W

Healing Grace

WORDS OF GRACE**Pastor**

Beloved, you are enough. God loves you as you are for who you are. We, collectively, have enough and may share in a common life where all may flourish and live in harmony as our Creator intended and designed. Friends – This is the good news – In Jesus Christ you are forgiven and free to embrace the life that is uniquely yours.

GLORIA PATRI #581P*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION****Liturgist**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING**Matthew 20:1-16****Liturgist**

¹“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord**People: Thanks be to God****PSALM OF THE DAY****Psalm 105:1-6****Liturgist**

- ¹ O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
- ³ Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

- ⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
- ⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,
- ⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Pastor

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 16:2-15

Pastor

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him — what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord **People:** Thanks be to God

SERMON

Pastor

GRATITUDE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Pastor

The Apostles' Creed Pg. 35 – front of the Glory to God Hymnal

UNISON: 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.

***HYMN #509P**

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Pastor

Hospitality – a warm welcome – is generosity. When we welcome each child of God into the life of this church, we extend God's own generous hospitality. Our gifts help this graceful ministry to flourish and to grow and to give glory to God. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

***DOXOLOGY #606P**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Pastor

Great God, please receive our gifts for the glory of your name and the blessing of your people. May we be dedicated stewards of your abundance and use these gifts for the benefit of your kingdom. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

(Call for names from the congregation for those to include in prayer)

Almighty, all powerful and omnipotent God, we praise your name for who You are. Your grace is sufficient to carry us through the challenges of life. You are our shepherd; we follow your voice for guidance. You are our refuge; we seek strength and help in trouble. You are our God, help us to be still to trust in you and know that You are in control. Merciful Lord, continue to have mercy on us, your creation, and come to rescue us, heal us, deliver us and restore us to the joy of new life. I pray this in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazareth.

Guide us, O God, by your Holy Spirit, that all of our prayers and all of our lives may serve your will and show your love. Hear us now as we pray together the prayer 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 #722P**

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

***BENEDICTION**

May the love of God assure you, the hope of God guide you, and the peace of God sustain you as you go receiving and extending God's grace in the world.

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

GO OUT INTO THE WORLD GRATEFULLY

WELCOME

Whether you are with us in person or online, it is our pleasure having you share worship with us. If you have any questions about this church and/or Presbyterians, the minister or liturgist will be happy to meet with you immediately following worship.

Minister: Rev. Ken Ehrke **Secretary:** Leslie Roden **Organist:** Barbara Compher
Church Office Hours: Tues & Thurs, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

WORSHIP NOTES

*Denotes people should stand if able

P=hymns in the purple Glory to God hymnbook W=hymns in the white Lift Up Your Heart hymnbook

Assisting in Worship today is Michael Griffin, Liturgist.

Thank you to Rosalee Fleming for providing snacks following Worship today.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Howard Barlow, Steve & Louise Wilson, Leslie Roden, Chris Turner, Morris Sewell, Arlene Schneider

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS: Yvonne Redelf-09/02; Max Leeming-09/06; Sarah Parker-09/16; Joshua Leeming-09/24; Treba Dobkins-09/25; Carmen McMurrey-09/29

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES: Al & Joyce Kirkpatrick- 09/01

SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER – items of the month

If you'd like to help support the Presbyterian Night Shelter, please bring the following items and place in the PNS bins located in the Fellowship Hall: Head covers w/visors, sunscreen, cooling neck wraps

LOOKING AHEAD:

10/01 – Music event & Potluck with Embrace – Music: 4:00 – 5:00, Potluck: 5:00 – 6:00.

10/26 – Pumpkin Carving & Potluck; bring your own pumpkin & favorite carving tool, 6:00.

11/12 – Stewardship Drive & Chili Cookoff; Chili served after worship.