

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**October 8, 2023 ~ 10:30 a.m.**

**The Gathering**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought – by Dale Wood

INTROIT – I Will Call Upon the Lord – Michael O’Shields

**Gathering Around the Word**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come from the East, the West, the South, and the North into this sacred space to worship the living God who walks with us.

**People: O, God, we worship you for who you are, for loving and granting us your grace.**

One: We lift our hands in praise to you and open our hearts to worship you in the fullness of who we are.

**ALL: Let us worship the Lord our God with joyful and thankful hearts. Amen!**

**HYMN – Be Thou My Vision #468 Vs. #1, #2, #4**

Vs. 1 Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Vs. 2 Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father and I, Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Vs. 4 High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Jesus, we ask that You bless our time together, that we may hear Your words and apply them to our lives so that You will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

UNISON PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

**Lord Jesus, we bow before you to confess that we are sinners and need forgiveness. We have failed you and your people many times and have neglected to do your will and love our neighbor as ourselves. We seek your wisdom and ask that your Holy Spirit create a pure heart that moves us to do what is right. We ask that your love overflow in us so we can live out our faith as a new creation to serve you and your**

**people. Help us to strive towards a more just and kinder world for all. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us. Amen!**

*Silence is kept.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People of God, “for it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—” Your sins are forgiven. Ephesians 2:8

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER [“Sins”]

**ANTHEM – Morning Has Broken – Arr. Rick Powell**

## The Word

### SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, <sup>[a]</sup> the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. <sup>34</sup> When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup> But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup> Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup> Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup> But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup> So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup> Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup> They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup> “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. <sup>44</sup> The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup> They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

SERMON

"Enough."

### **Responding to the Word**

OFFERING

#### **Invitation to Generosity**

We are invited to share our blessings generously with our church, community, and world. By sharing our gifts freely, God will be honored and glorified in our giving. So, let's give with joy in our hearts from our abundant blessings so that others may be blessed.

#### **Offertory – Cornerstone – by Lari Goss**

#### **Prayer of Dedication/Offering**

*Lord Jesus, we give thanks for each gift given. Bless them and multiply them so that others will be blessed, and your love will be shared worldwide. Amen!*

HYMN – Lord, Dismiss Us #520

Vs. 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace.  
Let us each, your love possessing,  
Triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us,  
trav'ling through this wilderness.

Vs. 2 Thanks we give and adoration  
for the gospel's joyful sound:  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound!  
Ever faithful, ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.

### **Sending the Word**

BENEDICTION

*Go forth to harvest fruit that impacts the world.  
Go forth with God's love to share with all.  
Go forth with the peace of Jesus Christ and  
With the communion with the Holy Spirit to be  
the transformative agents you are being called to be. Amen!*

POSTLUDE – Love Lifted Me – James Powell