

Sunday, October 25, 2020

WELCOME & LIFE IN THE CHURCH

- We are back to virtual only, Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.
- Offering online on the “Connect with God” page, you can pay by Zelle, Paypal, or mailing a check into the church office.
- Last Prayer workshop - today after church 11:45 - zoom link in Friday’s email called “Germonds this week” - spread out in Walkthrough room.
- All Saints Sunday is on November 1 - You are invited to email Marion the name of anyone you have lost in the past year or so who you would like to be remembered and honored.
- Share Your Musical Gifts - December 27 (Due December 12)
- We need some Advent Wreath Lighting volunteers.

PRELUDE

Pat Singer

CHORAL INTROIT

Come Bring Your Burdens to God

Germonds Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Larry Singer

We come to worship the God who inhabits our world
and indwells in our lives.

We need not look up to find God,
we need only look around:

within ourselves, beyond ourselves,
into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for distant thunder to find God,

we need only listen to the music of life,
the words of children,
the questions of the curious,
the rhythm of a heartbeat.
We come to worship the God who inhabits our world
and who indwells in our lives.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,
all the fancy words
in the world,
expressed in eloquent prose,
decorated with emotion,
spoken with conviction,
cannot compete with a heartfelt
'sorry'
when all other words fail.
There are times
when we are all too aware
of our limitations,
conscious of sin
and the distance it creates between us.
Sometimes 'sorry'
is all the heart can bear to say aloud.
It is only you
who can read and understand
the language of our hearts.

Only you who can translate our 'sorry'
into the prayer we would have prayed
if we had the words within us.

Then you forgive,
and having forgiven,
surround us in an embrace of love,
drawing us close to your heart
as it was always meant to be.

Thank you, Loving God,
that you listen to hearts
as well as voices.

Thank you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

When we confess our sins, when we say we are sorry and mean it, God hears the sincerity of our hearts and immediately forgives us. God does not hold our shortcomings against us. We are made right again with God and God's love flows through us as it pours out into the world. We give thanks and rejoice for we are forgiven, and we are loved. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Larry Singer

Luke 7:36-50

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus[a] to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. 37 And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38 She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher,"

he replied, “speak.” 41 “A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii,[b] and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?” 43 Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt.” And Jesus[c] said to him, “You have judged rightly.” 44 Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.” 48 Then he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” 49 But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” 50 And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

SCRIPTURE

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:10

26 When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. 27 When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, 12 1 and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had very many flocks and herds; 3 but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. 4 Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.” 5 Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; 6 he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

7 Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; 8 I gave you your master’s house, and

your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. 9 Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

MESSAGE

“What Stories Teach Us”

Rev. Abbie Huff

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Germonds Presbyterian Church Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Germonds Choir

POSTLUDE

Pat Singer