



## 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday *after* Pentecost

August 2, 2020

### Confession

*P : In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit*

**C: Amen**

*P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us gather with true hearts that confess our sins to God, that earnestly ask for forgiveness and that trust in our renewal through the work of our Savior Jesus the Christ.*

*P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

**C: who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

*P: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.*

**C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.** [Psalm 32:5]

*A: Almighty God, merciful Father:*

**C: I confess to you all my sins with which I have offended you and my neighbors. I am sorry for them. I devote myself to repentance and pray for your mercy. In your boundless grace and compassion send me your Holy Spirit that I may be strengthened in my faith and made ready for a life obedient to your will and your way.**

*P: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of steadfast love. [Exodus 34:6] Therefore, in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

### Prelude

### Greeting

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**C: And also with you.**

## **Psalm of Praise**

*P: O sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.*

**C: The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has revealed God's righteousness in the sight of the  
nations.**

*God remembers his steadfast love and faithfulness . . .*

**All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.**

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;*

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

*Sing praises to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the sound of melody.*

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.*

**Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of the Lord,**

*for he is coming to redeem the earth.*

**God will rule the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

*P: Let us pray:*

**C: Almighty God, you overwhelm us with love and grace,  
yet, it takes only a little "yeast" of temptation to cause us to  
stray and doubt, to forget that we are your children and  
destined for your Kingdom. Sow in us the fullness of the  
Spirit, that leavened by the inspiration of your Word, we  
will grow in good works and faithful lives. We ask this in  
Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Blest are God's peacemaking ones,  
Sent to work in countless ways —  
God's own daughters, God's own sons,  
Serving without seeking praise.*

*Yet like leaven in our bread,  
They persist to change us all.  
By God's Spirit, they are led  
To pursue God's peaceful call.*

*Bless-ed are God's prophets, too,  
Called to challenge what we know.*

*Working for a world that's new,  
Calling us to change and grow.  
Though the message that they bear  
Stands against what powers say —  
It is Jesus' word they share,  
News of God's new breaking day.*

*God, through Jesus' love and grace,  
May we live what we profess.  
In the challenges we face,  
May we know what makes us blest.*

*May we stand against the wrong;  
May our thirst for you increase.*

*Give to us a prophet's song!  
May we work to bring your peace!*

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

## Lesson

## Galatians 5

*Paul wrote the Christians in the city of Galatia who had started following other teachers, saying: What happened? You were running along so well! Who was it that impeded the Truth from being persuasive to you? This kind of persuasion does not come from the one calling you. Apparently, "A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough." I am confident about you in the Lord that you will get back on track with your thinking, but whoever it is that is confusing you will suffer the penalty!*

It is true that you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters,

only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for doing things that are not faithful, but through the wholistic love, serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one sentence, "You will love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Let me say this to you again, walk about in the Spirit and do not bring to fulfill the tempting outcomes of unfaithfulness. For what unfaithfulness is interested in, is in opposition to the Spirit, and the Spirit is in opposition to unfaithfulness; for they cannot be "bed fellows" and you cannot just to whatever you want. But, if you are being led by the Spirit, you will know freedom from the Law.

The works of unfaithfulness are apparent: an illicit relationship, corruption, over-indulgence, idolatry, sorcery, unresolved division, strife, jealousy, wrath, competitiveness, antagonism, sectarianism, envy, drunkenness, raucous hedonistic celebrations of indulgent behaviors, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before, those doing such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But, the fruit of the Spirit is wholistic love, great joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faith, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord!*

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm**

**Psalm 104**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

*O Lord my God, you are very great.*

**You are clothed with honor and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a garment.**

*You stretch out the heavens like a tent,  
you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,*

**you make the clouds your chariot,  
you ride on the wings of the wind,**

*you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers.*

**You set the earth on its foundations,**

**so that it shall never be shaken.**

*You cover it with the deep as with a garment;  
the waters stood above the mountains.*

**At your rebuke they flee;  
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.**

*They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys  
to the place that you appointed for them.*

**You set a boundary that they may not pass,  
so that they might not again cover the earth.**

*You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow between the hills,*

**giving drink to every wild animal;  
the wild asses quench their thirst.**

*By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;  
they sing among the branches.*

**From your lofty abode you water the mountains;  
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.**

*You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to use,*

**to bring forth food from the earth,  
and wine to gladden the human heart,  
oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the human heart.**

*The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.*

**In them the birds build their nests;  
the stork has its home in the fir trees.**

*The high mountains are for the wild goats;  
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.*

**You have made the moon to mark the seasons;  
the sun knows its time for setting.**

*You make darkness, and it is night,  
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.*

**The young lions roar for their prey,  
seeking their food from God.**

*When the sun rises, they withdraw  
and lie down in their dens.*

**People go out to their work**

**and to their labor until the evening.**  
*O Lord, how manifold are your works!*  
*In wisdom you have made them all;*  
**the earth is full of your creatures.**  
**Yonder is the sea, great and wide,**  
**creeping things innumerable are there,**  
**living things both small and great.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*P: Listen now for the Gospel;*

**All: Alleluia!**

*It is God's word that changes us;*

**Alleluia!**

*Come, Holy Spirit,*

**melt and break our hearts of stone**

**until we give our lives to God and God alone.**

*Come, Holy Spirit,*

**root in us God's living word,**

**that we may show the faithfulness of Christ our Lord.**

*Come, Holy Spirit,*

**bind the broken, find the lost,**

**confirm in us the fire and love of Pentecost.**

*Listen now for the Gospel;*

**Alleluia!**

*It is God's word that changes us;*

**Alleluia!**

Zimbabwean liturgical acclamation

*P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter.*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

## Gospel

## Matthew 13:33

### **The Parable of the Yeast in the Bread Mix**

While Jesus was still on the boat and the crowd was gathered on the beach he told them a fourth parable.

The kingdom of the heavens is like yeast that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

*P: The Gospel of the Lord!*  
**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

**512**

*As the wind song through the trees,  
as the stirring of the breeze,*

**so it is with the Spirit of God,**

*as the heart made strangely warm,*

*as the voice within the storm,*

**so it is with the Spirit of God.**

*Never seen, ever known*

*where this wind has blown*

**bringing life, bringing power to the world,**

**as the dancing tongues of fire,**

**as the soul's most deep desire,**

**so it is with the Spirit of God.**

*As the rainbow after rain,*

*as the hope that's born again,*

**so it is with the Spirit of God,**

*as the green in the spring,*

*as a kite on a string,*

**so it is with the Spirit of God,**

*making worlds that are new,*

*making peace come true,*

**bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,**

**as the rising of the yeast,**

**as the wine at the feast,**

**so it is with the Spirit of God.**

Text: Ee Suen Wong, 2005, in Chinese, trans by Shirley Murray  
Tune: WAIRUA TAPU, Swee Hong Lim, 2004

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Offering Presented & Offertory Prayer

*P: Let us Pray*

**C: In thanks for all the blessing of life, for work and rest, for food and shelter, for love and laughter, for beauty and harmony, we return these offerings to You, O God. We pray that our thanks is pleasing in Your sight, that what we offer is used again for sustenance and growth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## The Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

## Benediction & Dismissal

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Grace's Congregation Council has affirmed that Grace will be following the new NYForward Phase requirements, maintaining the closure of the building other than for Sunday Worship and cancelling and postponing all Grace Events at least until the Mid-Hudson Region reaches Phase 4. Grace will continue to abide by the requirements for Mask-wearing and Social Distancing imposed by NY State.