

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

9:00 AM

CONNECTING WITH CHRIST

Prelude

Welcome, Celebration and Concerns

Call to Worship

Invocation and Lord's Prayer

†Hymn 112 *Give to Our God Immortal Praise*

CLEANSING OUR HEARTS

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and ever-present God, You know well the failures of humanity and our inability to live according to Your holiness. We come before You today knowing how often we have sinned in thought, word, and deed by wandering from Your ways and forsaking Your commandments. Forgive us for the things we have done and for the things we have left undone. At times it seems we have no good in us, and we are doubtful of Your forgiveness. Remind us that as far as the heavens are above the earth is Your unfailing love toward us. You separate our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west. Challenge us to repent and believe in Your power at work in our hearts. Allow us the honor of being a witness to the redeeming power of Your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in the Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Choral Response *Hymn 309*

"I will sing of my Redeemer and His wondrous love to me; On the cruel cross He suffered from the curse to set me free. Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with His blood He purchased me. On the cross He sealed my pardon, Paid the debt and made me free."

RESPONDING TO GRACE

Invitation to the Offering

†Doxology *Hymn 815*

†Fourth Stanza of America *Pew Hymnal, page 807*

Our Father's God to Thee, Author of liberty, to Thee we sing; Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King. Amen.

†Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from the Confession of 1967 9.08*

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinners. But Christ's complete obedience led Jesus into conflict with God's people. Jesus' life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected the Christ and demanded Jesus' death. In giving himself freely for them, Jesus took upon himself the judgment under which all humanity stands convicted. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all people. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

†Hymn 688 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Scripture *Jeremiah 31:11-20* *Pages 1226-7*

Message *Finding the heart of Redemption: The Wanderer*
Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lovelady

CONNECTING WITH LIFE

†Hymn 355 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

†Benediction

†Postlude

†Worshippers are asked to stand, if able