

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

**Heritage Sunday**

November 5, 2006

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

## GATHERING

The Prelude

*"Aria"*

Gilbert Martin

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

*"Arise, Your Light is Come!"*

William Walter

The Call To Worship

How often have we imagined the ruler of glory far off?

God is not in some remote heaven but here.

**We wait in silence for God's appearing.**

**Come, Holy One, to wipe away our tears.**

Stretch out your hands and open your hearts.

Purify your lives from all deceit and falsehood.

**God reaches out to comfort and cleanse.**

**We can sense God's hand of blessing resting on us.**

The earth and all things in it are God's.

The world and all its people belong to God.

**We are God's people, called and saved by Christ.**

**We are the saints who share in Christ's ministry.**

The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Hymn 138

*"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. . .**  
(time for silent confession). . .

**In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*The Assurance of Pardon

\*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

\*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**  
(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.  
Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

## HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Isaiah 25:6-9*

p.798 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 24*

p. 617 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

Gilbert Martin, arr.

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 11:32-44*

p. 128 in the pew Bible

Anniversaries of Membership

A Moment With the Children

\*The Hymn 364

*“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”*

Reception of New Members (11:00 am)

**Eternal God our one true Parent: we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number sisters and brothers in faith. We bless you for their gifts, their talents, and their journeys of faith that bring them to this time and place. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

The *New Testament* Lesson: *Revelation 21:1-6a*

p 315 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

“Heaven and Earth Made New”

Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

**AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .**

\*The *Affirmation of Faith*

from “*A Brief Statement of Faith*”

**In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves  
and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the church.**

**The same Spirit  
who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.  
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silence,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,  
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Prayers of Thanksgiving, Remembrance, Intercession, and The Lord’s Prayer

The Service of Offering

The Offertory

*“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”*

Peter Scholtes

The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

**Gracious God, you set us upright and cause our feet to stand firm on the foundation of Jesus Christ, the cornerstone of our faith. We bring you ourselves in response to your grace and mercy. You test us in Christ and find us worthy of your benevolent care and compassion. Through the ministry of your Spirit you call us to shine forth to your glory and honor, and cause your light to shine forth on the nations. We bring you our gifts in response to your graciousness and ask that you will watch over us as we go forth to serve you in thought, word, and deed. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

**SENDING**

\*The Hymn 526

*“For All the Saints”*

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude

*“O God of Earth and Altar”*

James Mansfield