

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 30, 2007

8:30 and 11:00 am

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 91)

You who live in the shelter of the Most High will say, "My God, in whom I trust."

**No evil shall befall those who make the Lord their refuge,  
the Most High their dwelling place.**

God will deliver those who love the Lord and call on God's name.

**When they call, God will answer, be with them in trouble,  
and show them salvation.**

The Prayer of Praise

**Your goodness goes before us, O Holy Redeemer, and the upright rejoice in Your radiant splendor. Your touch turns deserts into pools of living water. As You embrace the land, its yield abounds. With wisdom You implant, we shall proclaim Your virtue. Through our Savior Christ Jesus we shall sing Your praise without ceasing. Amen.**

\*The Hymn 555

*"Now Thank We All Our God"*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**God of justice and righteousness, You lift up the lowly and fill the empty, yet we adore the high and mighty. You reach out to the poor, yet we ceaselessly pursue wealth. You talk about treasure in heaven, yet we want dollars in our accounts right now. Forgive our lack of generosity. Heal our misguided ways. Cleanse us from the assumption that all that matters is what we have and what we can get. In Your mercy, hear our prayer. . .time for silent confession)...**

\*The Choral Response

\*The Assurance of Pardon

Living the good life costs a lot.

**God gave God's Beloved One that we might have real life.**

Christ gave His life that we might be saved for life now,  
and life forever more.

**In Christ we receive God's richest blessing:  
Because of Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*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.)

### TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *Jeremiah 32:1-3a,6-15*

p. 900 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalm 91:1-6,14-16*

p. 674 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "What Shall I Bring to the Lord?"

Robert Lau

The Epistle Lesson: *1 Timothy 6:6-19*

p. 257 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

\*The Hymn 307 "Fight the Good Fight"

The Gospel Lesson: *Luke 16:19-31*

p. 97 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

"When Prosperity Isn't"  
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

\*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 Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,  
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**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 the People

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

\*The Doxology and Prayer of DedicationDoxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

**God of rich and poor, God of weak and strong, God of haves and have nots, God of old and young,  
bring Your kingdom to life in us Your daughters and sons. These gifts we bring are signs of our desire  
to walk with You for the sake of all people. May it be so this day and always. Through Christ our  
Lord. Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME.

\*The Hymn 429 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*Postlude