

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

July 17, 2005

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

Rev. Robert Lowry

Neil Corry, Bass Soloist

The Call To Worship

(from *Psalms 139*)

O Lord, You have searched me and known me.

You discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Where can I go from Your Spirit?

Or where can I flee from Your presence?

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

See if there is any wicked way in me

and lead me in the way everlasting.

The Prayer of Adoration

*The Hymn 376

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*The Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, that our lives are a mixture of weeds and good seeds. The weeds choke us and limit our will to respond. We admire the good seeds and want to nourish them. When the harvest comes, we know that the good seed will be kept and all else will be judged unfit for Your realm. Christ have mercy upon us as we learn of Your will. Give us guidance and determination as we obey Your command. Forgive our misplaced allegiance when we settle for weeds. May we broadcast the landscape with the good seed of Your Word. . . (time for silent confession). . .

*The Response

"Softly and Tenderly"

Will. L. Thompson

Neil Corry

*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.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Genesis 28:10-19a*

p. 23 in the pew Bible

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 13:24-30,36-43*

p. 846 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Chas. H. Gabriel

Neil Corry, Bass Soloist

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 139:1-12,23-24*

p. 541 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 247 "I Will Give Thanks with My Whole Heart"

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Romans 8:12-25*

p. 982 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

"Hospitality"
E. Bruce Harvey, 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, whom Jesus called Abba Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

**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 and Intercession / Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal
Diane Peterson

The Service of Offering
The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

**As the wheat is gathered into the barns, O God, so the fruits of our labors are brought into
Your house. Through the purging fire of Your judgment, render our gifts acceptable in Your
sight. Set them aside as worthy, so that Jesus Christ, the bread of life, may nourish others. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 438

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

“The Lord’s Prayer”
Neil Corry

Albert Hay Malotte