

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

September 11, 2005

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

“Love of the Father”

David Paxton/Orlando Gibbons

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God.
Let us remember God’s marvelous works.
**Surely God has saved us in difficult times.
How can we forget God’s guiding hand?**
When evil surrounds us and we have been wronged,
God helps us turn the evil to good.
**We need not be afraid whatever happens.
We are in God’s care wherever we go.**
Sing the praises of God, our strength.
Know that God is majestic and holy.
**How great is God’s mercy for all who worship!
We sense among us God’s kindness and patience.**

The Prayer of Adoration

God of power and might, hear the praise of our day. Generation after generation You deliver Your people from new forms of bondage. We rejoice in Your law which You give to direct us. We are grateful for Your Gospel in Christ given to redeem us. Let all generations praise Your Holy Name. We bless You O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Hymn 114

“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”

*The Prayer of Confession

We make comparisons, O God who loves us all alike, not to increase our understanding but to claim distinction for ourselves. We try to build ourselves up at others’ expense. By imposing our comparisons on others, we are often jealous and envious. We stir up quarreling. No other creature in heaven or on earth compares with us in so dishonoring one another and dishonoring Christ. . .(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

We confess the sins we know.
God cleanses us of even our hidden faults.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven – of more than we know.
Thanks be to God. 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.)

Dedication of Teachers and Leaders

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Exodus 14:19-31*

p. 47 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 114*

p. 530 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

“Alleluia, Let Praises Ring”

Wolff

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Romans 14:1-12*

p. 988 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 358

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 18:21-35*

p. 853 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

“Accounts Unsettled”
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed*

p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

“Praise God, Ye Christians”

Dietrich Buxtehude

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

Lord, we give thanks for Your many gifts to us. Help us to see Your liberating hand in all our blessings. Teach us Your generosity, that we may share the freedom we know in You with others. Bless these offerings to the upbuilding of Your realm on earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 347

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

“Let the Trumpet Sound!”

Lani Smith