

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

September 25, 2005

The Nineteenth 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

“Andante Religioso”

Felix Mendelssohn

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 78)

Listen to the voice of God; listen to God’s teaching.

Tell of God’s glorious deeds, God’s wonders and might.

God splits open rocks in the wilderness and gives drink.

God causes waters to flow like rivers.

Let us worship this God of plenty, God of peace and joy and love.

The Prayer of Adoration

We rejoice in You, Sovereign God, and our souls exult. You adorn Your people with salvation and righteousness. How can we keep silent? How can we rest? We praise You, Great God: You are always working to bring righteousness to all the earth. We exult in You, faithful One, for Your Word brings Your covenant of steadfast love to all forever. Glory be to You, Eternal God, with all praise and adoration. Through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit we worship and pray. Amen.

*The Hymn 148

“At the Name of Jesus”

*The Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. How often we do not do what we intended! What we confess is not how we act. We hear your word preached and we give our assent, but faith is found wanting when it comes time to obey. We are confronted by conflict; decisions are called for. Our desires are at odds with what you command and we do not do what you wish. O God, have mercy upon us and in Christ forgive us. . .(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*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.)

Stewardship Moment

Worship Committee

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Exodus 17:1-7* p. 60 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 78:1-4,12-16* p. 507 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Sweet Canaan"
from "The Sacred Harp" Martha Shaffer, arr.

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Philippians 2:1-13* p. 1023 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

Dedication of Choristers, Dancers and Musicians

*The Hymn 264 "When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 21:23-32* p. 855 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Ahead of You"
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 "Bist du bei mir" G. H. Stolzel

*The Doxology Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

The Dedication of Bibles and Offerings

.....and strengthened in service as Christ's bold disciples in the world.

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

We cannot live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from your mouth, O Lord.

**Trusting in Jesus Christ, we dedicate these Bibles
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

Accept with them, our weekly offerings as reflections
of your steadfast love and faithfulness.

**You have given us all that we have, all that we are,
and all that we ever will be.**

We give, because you first have given so much to us and to all your children.

**Let every knee bow, and every tongue confess,
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 427 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude "God of Majesty and Hope" Beatrice A. Miller