

**September 20, 2020 +++ 16th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**First Presbyterian Church +++ Mason, Michigan**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth,  
and humankind in your image.  
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

*Invention no. 4 in D Minor, BWV 775*  
*Variations on "Morning Has Broken"*

J. S. Bach  
Callahan

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Romans 1:7; Psalm 113:7; Mark 9:35-37*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!  
The Lord raises the poor from the dust  
**and lifts up the needy from the ashes.**  
The last are first in the realm of God;  
**the least are welcomed in Jesus' name.**  
Let us worship God!

**HYMN #362**

**"Morning Has Broken"**

BUNESSAN

Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

*1 Timothy 1:14-15*

The grace of God overflows for us  
through Christ Jesus  
who came into the world to save sinners.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,  
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.  
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.  
We have not loved you with a pure heart,  
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We have not done justice, loved kindness,  
or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.  
In your great compassion,  
cleans us from our sin.  
Do not cast us away from your presence,  
or take your Holy Spirit from us.  
Restore to us the joy of your salvation  
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

*1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24*

The saying is sure  
and worthy of full acceptance,  
that Jesus Christ came into the world  
to save sinners.  
He himself bore our sins  
in his body on the cross,  
that we might be dead to sin,  
and alive to all that is good.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,  
you are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

HYMN #112

**“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”**

ST. AGNES

Jesus, the very thought of thee  
with sweetness fills my breast;  
but sweeter far thy face to see,  
and in thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame,  
nor can the mind recall

a sweeter sound than thy blest name,  
O savior of us all!

O hope of every contrite heart,  
O joy of all the meek,  
to those who ask, how kind thou art,  
how good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this  
nor tongue nor pen can show;  
the love of Jesus, what it is  
none but his loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be thou,  
as thou our prize wilt be;  
in thee be all our glory now,  
and through eternity.

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*You are invited to share your prayer requests  
by using the Chat feature during our livestream,  
or by leaving a message on Bill's phone (517-525-5467) by 9:00 am Sunday morning.*

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus:  
It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Let us return to God the offerings of our life

*Acts 20:35*

and the gifts of the earth.

**RESPONSE #809**

**“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of mercy,  
you promised never to break your covenant with us.  
Amid all the changing words of our generation,  
speak your eternal word that does not change.  
Then may we respond to your gracious promises  
with faithful and obedient lives;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

**Exodus 16:2-15**

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one

another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

**PSALM**

**Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45**

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
Sing to him, sing praises to him;  
tell of all his wonderful works.  
Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.  
Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually.  
Remember the wonderful works he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,  
O offspring of his servant Abraham,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold,  
and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.  
Egypt was glad when they departed,  
for dread of them had fallen upon it.  
He spread a cloud for a covering,  
and fire to give light by night.  
They asked, and he brought quails,  
and gave them food from heaven in abundance.  
He opened the rock, and water gushed out;  
it flowed through the desert like a river.  
For he remembered his holy promise,  
and Abraham, his servant.

So he brought his people out with joy,  
his chosen ones with singing.  
He gave them the lands of the nations,  
and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,  
that they might keep his statutes  
and observe his laws.  
Praise the LORD!

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

**Philippians 1:21-30**

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your

progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

**Matthew 20:1-16**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**RESPONSE**

*Romans 10:8*

This is the word of faith that we proclaim.

**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM**

**“For the Fruit of All Creation” (verses 2-3)**

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.

In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,

in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**SERMON**

**“Your Fill of Bread in the Morning”**

Rev. Bill Pinches

**HYMN #694**

**“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”**

AUSTRIAN HYMN

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation’s walls surrounded, thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

See the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove:  
who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage? –  
grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near!  
Thus they march, the pillar leading, light by night and shade by day,  
daily on the manna feeding which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, since of Zion’s city I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name;  
fading is the world’s best pleasure, all its boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion’s children know.

**BLESSING**

*Revelation 1:8*

The blessing of the holy, triune God—  
who was and is and is to come—  
first and last,  
beginning and end,  
Alpha and Omega—  
be with you now and always.

**Amen!**

Postlude

*Postlude on “How Great Thou Art”*

Powell



*The Gathering of the Manna*, artist unknown, c. 1460-1470

### CREDITS

**Prayers:** *Book of Common Worship*, Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Scripture:** New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

### **Music:**

*Invention no. 4 in D Minor, BWV 775* by Johann Sebastian Bach. Public domain.



*Variations on "Morning Has Broken"* by Charles Callahan. Used by permission, One License #A-717602.

*"Morning Has Broken"* lyrics: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931; music: traditional Gaelic melody; arr. David Evans, 1927. Words © 1957 by permission of Harold Ober Associates Incorporated; music used by permission of Oxford University Press. Used by permission, CCLI #1076240.

*"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"* lyrics: from the Latin, 12<sup>th</sup> c.; trans. Edward Caswall, 1849; music: John B. Dykes, 1866. Public domain.

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"* lyrics: Thomas Ken, 1709; music: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551, alt. Public domain.

*"For the Fruit of All Creation"* lyrics: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt.; music: Welsh melody, c. 1784. Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission, One License #A-717602.

*"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"* lyrics: John Newton, 1779, alt.; music: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1779. Public domain.

*Postlude on "How Great Thou Art"* by Robert Powell. Used by permission.

**Art:** [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gathering\\_of\\_the\\_Manna.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gathering_of_the_Manna.jpg). Public domain.

**Organist:** Darlene Ross

**Vocalist:** Deb Melse

**Pastor:** Rev. Bill Pinches

**Ministers:** All Church Members