

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Fleetwood, Pennsylvania
Stewardship Sunday
October 29, 2017

GATHERING PRAYER

Almighty God, as I gather to worship you today, I present myself to you as a living sacrifice. By the power of your holy spirit, make me strong. Help me to fulfill my ministry this day, in Jesus name, Amen.

INTROIT

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "What A Fellowship" (See Insert)

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING

PRELUDE "Sunday Morning Blues" C. Zeplin/Morning Has Broken E. Farjeon/C. Stevens

(Congregation Standing)

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: (singing) Amen!

Pastor: God is in God's Holy temple, let us bow down and rejoice in the Sovereign Lord, maker of all things.

People: Let us worship God with music, let of sing of God's majesty that is evident in the world around us.

Pastor: Our God is an awesome God and God reigns over all things; the baby in the cradle, the children at play; parents, grandparents; friends and family.

People: We come to worship this awesome God with our gifts of time and treasure. We come to commit ourselves to securing the future of St. Paul's for our children and our grandchildren.

Pastor: Let us sing praise to the Most High God!

PWM

All singing Verse 1, "O Worship The King"

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

TEXT: Robert Grant, 1833, alt.
MUSIC: Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784, alt.

LYONS
10.10.11.11

PENETENCE

Pastor: A father tells his son to prepare the fields for planting. "Till the soil, make it level, ready to receive the seed."

People: The son did as he was told, but when it came time to sow the seed, he sowed sparingly, hoping to use the seed for other things.

Pastor: When the rains came and the sun warmed the soil the seed sprouted. It grew all summer long, but when time came for the harvest, the family did not reap enough to replace their seed.

People: "I am sorry," said the son to the father, "I was unfaithful in my work and I have jeopardized the well being of our family."

Pastor: Let us confess ways we too have been unfaithful.

All: Loving and Caring God, it is hard for us to let go of the "things" that we have. We know you call us to be generous with what we have but we are afraid we will not have enough for ourselves. Help us to be people of faith. Give us the courage to sow the seeds in order that your garden grows. Help us to be people of courage trusting you to inspire us to be generous with all you have entrusted to us. PWM

Silent prayers of confession

Pastor: And the father said to his son, "God is able to give to you all that you need and even more. Share in your abundance with call of God's children."

People: Thank you God for your grace that is never-ending!

All singing verse 5, "O Worship the King"

(Congregation may be seated)

CHANCEL CHOIR "No, Not One" Hugg/ Shackley

There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus; No, not one, No, not one!
None else could heal all our souls diseases; No, not one, no not one!
Jesus knows all about our struggles; He will guide till the day is done.
There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus; no, not one, no not one!

No friend like Him is so high and holy; there is not one; not one!
And yet no friend is so meek and lowly; there is not one, no, not one!
Jesus knows all about our struggles; He will guide till the day is done.
There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus; no not one; no, not one!

Not my sister or my brother; no, not one!
Not my father or my mother; no, not one!
There's not an hour that He is not near us, no night so dark, but His Love can cheer us.
There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus; no, not one, no not one!

Jesus knows all about our struggles; He will guide till the day is done.
There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus; no, not one, no not one!
No, not one, no, not one! Not one!

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

Second Corinthians 9:1-15 NT pg.193
(Congregation Standing)

Choral Response: *O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in Your ways;
And step by step You lead me, and I will follow You all my days.*

(The congregation may be seated.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Lord's Prayer" Albert Mallote

SERMON

"Finding Our Joy In Giving"

(Congregation Standing)

RESPONSIVE HYMN

"Amazing Grace" NCH no. 547
(The congregation may be seated.)

GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

THE OFFERTORY

"Hallelujah" Leonard Cohen
(Congregation Stands)

DOXOLOGY

*All (singing) Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SENDING

