

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Brothers and sisters, what good is it if we proclaim our faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith while withholding mercy and denying food to the hungry and clothes to the naked is an affront to God. Faith that does not bear the fruit of mercy and compassion is worthless. Faith without works is dead.

***SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 125**

*** OPENING HYMN: #657..... This is the Day**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If we would find God in our lives, if our worship is to be fulfilling, we must seek God's will for us.

People: Speak to us, Lord, as we open our ears and our hearts to your presence in our lives.

Leader: The Lord is present to those who seek him in a spirit of love and humility.

People: We place our lives in your hands, O Lord. Lead us and we will follow.

*** Let us pray (Congregation):**

Divine Physician, we would draw near to you in this time of worship for we know that you can make us whole. We thank you for your sensitivity to and awareness of the needs of others. You care for people, the hungry and the oppressed. You restore sight and help the stooped to stand tall. You give new heart to the bereaved and hopeless. Our faith is in you and we know you will not disappoint us. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: #452 My Faith (vs 1&2)**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

O Gracious God, you created us for fellowship with you and so that we might serve you by making rough places plain, making this a better world for your children. We have often failed in this task, even after you sent Christ to free us from the sins which bound us fast, we still prefer the snug harbor of our sins to the open seas of life where problems often seem overwhelming. Forgive us for our fears, Lord, and grant us the courage that cares enough to give of our very best in service to you and to our world. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: #454Open My Eyes**

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Listen for God's word as we draw near to Jesus who has the power to make us whole. Let us keep our eyes on Jesus on whom our faith depends from the beginning to the end.

***SCRIPTURE READING: James 2:14-26**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: **"Resuscitate a Dying Faith"**

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: #733 Marching to Zion (vs 1 & 4)**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

*** PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

CLOSING HYMN: #143On Eagle's Wings

***DISMISSAL BLESSING**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 125 (NKJV)

125 Those who trust in the LORD

Are like Mount Zion,

Which cannot be moved, *but* abides forever.

² As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

So the LORD surrounds His people

From this time forth and forever.

³ For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest

On the land allotted to the righteous,

Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity.

⁴ Do good, O LORD, to *those who are* good,

And to *those who are* upright in their hearts.

⁵ As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways,

The LORD shall lead them away

With the workers of iniquity.

Peace *be* upon Israel!

Second Scripture Reading: James 2:14-26 (NKJV)

Faith Without Works Is Dead

¹⁴ What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit? ¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without ^[a]your works, and I will show you my faith by ^[b]my works. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! ²⁰ But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is ^[c]dead? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? ²² Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made ^[d]perfect? ²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was ^[e]accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

JUST AS THE BODY
IS DEAD WITHOUT
BREATH, SO ALSO
FAITH IS DEAD
WITHOUT GOOD
WORKS.

JAMES 2:26

September 20, 2020

LeRoy United Methodist Church
10 Trigon Park, LeRoy, NY 14482
(585) 768-8980

Pastor Hector Rivera

Office: smiller@leroyumcny.org

Website: www.leroyumcny.org

FB: LeRoy United Methodist Church