Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B September 19, 2021

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

A good reputation is better than much wealth. High esteem is more to be desired than silver and gold. For God vindicates the pure in heart and brings ruin to the twisted ways of slanderers and evildoers.

*SCRIPTURE READING Mark 7:24-37

* OPENING HYMN: #368...... My Hope Is Built

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Faith is a two-way relationship with God.

People: By faith we believe God loves us, and by faith we give our lives to God.

Leader: Faith is believing and living. One without the other is not Christian faith.

People: As we believe, so let us live, in witness that we are in a right relationship with God.

* Let us pray (Congregation):

Father in heaven whose gift of faith requires not only that we believe in you, but that we also put our belief into action:

Motivate us in active discipleship, that we may demonstrate the sincerity of our faith. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:

#98...... To God Be the Glory

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)

We are content too often, Father, to interpret our faith as having the right beliefs. Yet much of our belief never bears fruit in Christian discipleship. Forgive us when our faith becomes self-destructive by inactivity. Inspire us with a commitment of both thought and deed, that we may experience a living faith. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: #557 Blest Be the Tie
That Binds

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Gracious God, like a pen in your hands, write us with open hearts to hear the words of holy scripture.

Open our lives this day,

that we may respond to your word with acts of love and care. Amen.

*SCRIPTURE READING: James 2:1-17

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

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "Eliminating the Dividing Walls"

* RESPONSE TO THE WORD: #473Lead Me, Lord

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns`

Let us pray: The Lord's Prayer

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

* CLOSING HYMN: #431.....Let There Be Peace on Earth

* DISMISSAL BLESSING



Joys & Concerns & Notes

- ~ Shirley Platt (health concerns)
- ~ Sandra Rosado (prayers for complete recovery)
- ~ P.J. (in Strong Hospital waiting for a heart transplant) [Kate's cousin]
- ~ Catie Long has COVID (prayers for recovery)
- ~ Don Swanson (health concerns)
- ~ Kanae Swanson (strength)
- ~ Richard Harris (continuing prayers for recovery)
- ~ John & Shirley Zinter (health concerns) {Sue's parents}
- ~ Susan (strength & comfort)
- ~ Drivers for church van/transportation
- ~ Prayers for a Multi-Cultural Committee
- ~ Immigration
- ~ Prayers for asking God to be led to serve on our various committees

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A Community Church: Moving Forward
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