

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
October 10, 2021
United Church of Christ – Pastor James Mohr

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PRELUDE *“Air II”* Handel/Bish
Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON
WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the name of God
from this time on and forevermore.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of God is to be praised.**

It is good to give thanks to God,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**To declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night.**

PRAISE IN THE MORNING - *sing*

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!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gentle and holy God, we acknowledge to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we are not what you have called us to be. We have stifled our gifts and wasted our time. We have avoided opportunities to offer kindness, but have been quick to take offense. We have pretended that we could make no contribution to peace and justice in our world and have excused ourselves from risk-taking in our own community. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and help us to live our lives differently, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose call to follow haunts our every prayer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 23:1-9, 16-17

¹Then Job answered: ²“Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. ³Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling!

⁴I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. ⁵I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me.

⁶Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me.

⁷There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

⁸“If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; ⁹on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.”

EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 4:12-16

¹² Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:17-31

⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me

good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money^[a] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is^[b] to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

MEDITATION

Rev. James Mohr

"Hard Questions"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

United Church Statement of Faith

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

MORNING PRAYERS

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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.

THE OFFERING SERVICE

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN #173

“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
But only asking for me to follow.

Refrain:

O Jesus, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you’ve called out my name,
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you I will seek other seas.

You know full well my possessions.
Neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,
Just these my fishnets and will for working.

Refrain

You need my hands, my exhaustion,
working love for the rest of the weary---
A love that’s willing to go on loving.

Refrain

You who have fished other waters;
you, the longing of souls that are yearning:
As loving Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *“Allegro Moderato”* Handel/Bish
Karen Mohr

Announcements

WELCOME - We welcome you to our service of worship!

We are glad that you have joined us in-person, through the internet or on the radio.
We pray that you will experience the love of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

RADIO BROADCAST

11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN 98.5FM and 1370AM

**We would like to thank Ruth & Bob Schmidt for sponsoring this week’s radio broadcast
in memory of sister-in-law, Pat Mohr and dad, Albert Mohr**

- **Tuesday, October 12th – 5 PM Deacons Meeting**
- **Thursday, October 14th – 1:30 PM Circle of Friends Meeting at the church**
- **Sunday, October 17th 10:45-11:15 AM LUNCH GIVE AWAY, curbside pickup**
- **Anyone interested in tying quilts (no experience needed)- please contact Doris Bakker
at 715-743-4215 home, or 715-613-3404 cell**
- **Every Wednesday 6:30 PM – Working on Crafts for Holiday Fair at Carla Marty residence**
- **Our Holiday Fair is Nov. 13th and the Circle of Friends is asking for food donations of cookies, cakes,
pies, bars, breads, candy, jam or jelly, etc. We could also use help in setting up and “manning”the
tables. Contact Susie Karl 745-743-4464, or Carole Romens 651-359-5196 with questions**

**We highly recommend everyone attending services to wear a mask
and practice social distancing.**

