

Service of Divine Worship

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 22, 2010

Liturgist: Dave Fulton

Silent Meditations: *Richard Halverson puts it succinctly: When the Greeks got the gospel, they turned it into a philosophy; when the Romans got it, they turned it into a government; when the Europeans got it, they turned it into a culture; and when the Americans got it, they turned it into a business. –(Church Between Gospel and Culture: The Emerging Mission in North America, Edited by George R. Hunsberger and Craig Van Gelder, Eerdmans, 1996, p. 77)*

What is the most significant, countercultural, revealing act of worship on Sunday? What act of worship typifies the wonder of the Christian faith? Is it the sermon when God's word is preached? I wish! Is it the Eucharist when we receive the mystery of Christ's body and blood? Or is it the reading of scripture when we submit ourselves to God's word? ... I wonder if (particularly in our culture) it is the offering. There we take a stand. There we show where our values are. There we swear allegiance. There we put our beliefs into action. The offering may be that act that makes all other acts of worship possible. –Bishop William H. Willimon

Preparation for Worship

Prelude

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

Praise to God

*Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

No. 1

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Lead on, O King eternal, 'till sin's fierce war shall cease,

People: And holiness shall whisper the sweet Amen of peace;

Liturgist: For not with swords loud clashing nor roll of stirring drums;

People: But deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.

*Gloria Patri

Unison Opening Prayer (*Derived from Psalm 103:1-8*)

Liturgist

We stand together to bless you, Lord, and we do not forget your benefits: Who forgives all our iniquities, who heals our diseases, who redeems us, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies us with good as long as we live, who works vindication and justice for all of us who are oppressed, who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. For these abounding gifts, and more, we bless you, gracious God in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin (*Derived from Hebrews 12:18-29*)

Liturgist

Gracious God, we confess today that we like to manage and domesticate things, ordering them to our will, specifications, desires and values, for we do like the control that such managing creates for us. To be honest, we like the power that seems to accrue to us when we manage people, events, situations, things well and according to our own purposes, or to the purposes of people who happen to think and feel the way we do. Forgive us all, then, merciful God, when we allow these habits of mind and spirit to enter into our spiritual life with You and with each other. Forgive us when we conveniently forget all of Your benefits, which we just recited in our opening prayer, when we are tempted to play a few god games ourselves when you seem to be absent from us, from time to time, like the Hebrews were when Moses was with You. Help us to remember and to believe that many extraordinary events occur without our management skills at all, and even in spite of them. Help us to open our spirits and minds and hearts to the awesome wonderment of your very Presence, as when you come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, to the innumerable angels in festal gathering, to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Help us to learn to stand and to love in the kingdom that You are preparing for us, so that as Your Realm of Love can never be shaken, neither then shall we be shaken, with our acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for You are indeed our consuming fire; in Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon --- Amen Sung

Witness of Faith

Pastoral Prayer

Children's Moment

Anthem

"Psalm 86"

Nygard

Proclamation of the Word

The New Testament Lesson (Liturgist)

Luke 13:10-17 (Page #950 of Pew Bible)

Sermon "...AND JUST THEN THERE APPEARED A WOMAN WITH A SPIRIT..."

Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Liturgist

Gracious and compassionate Lord, enable us to pray that Your overwhelming Presence may accompany our gifts to the ministry of Jesus Christ, that His power, blessings and grace may strengthen our gifts as they disperse through the world, multiplying and spreading Your Realm of Love in ways that we cannot possibly imagine, let alone manage: In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Preparation for Obedience in the World

*Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

No. 272

*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

People: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

*The Benediction

*Postlude

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

WE WELCOME VISITORS who are attending our service of worship today. **EVERYONE** is requested to sign the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. We request visitors also to note their addresses and telephone numbers.

THE FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Addie Walser; given by her parents, Joy and Vance Walser and her Uncle John Smith.

USHERS: John Potts, Ron Hutcheson, Myra Thompson, Janette Neal and Cheryl Walser

PLATE ATTENDANT: John Walser

GREETERS: Myrtle Latimer and Pattie Everhart

NURSERY {Birth through 6 years-old}: Dawn Shaak

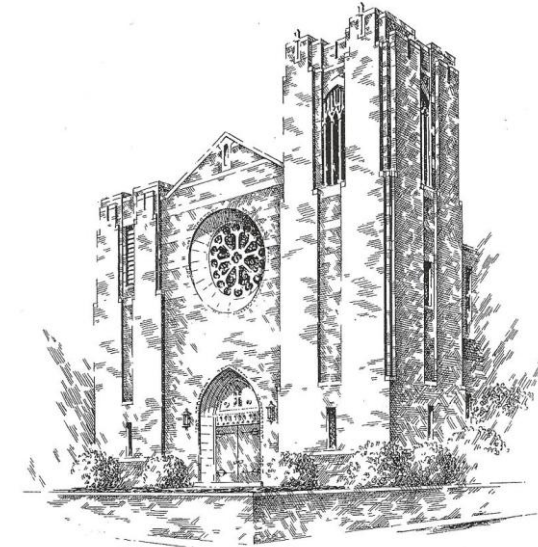
PRAYER CONCERNS: Callie Kepley, Jacqueline Leonard, Ronnie Durham, Ernie Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Velna Swing, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family). Please remember our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. To add a name for prayer, contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

Church Staff

Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D., Intentional Interim Minister
Cathy Waitman, Interim Director of Christian Education
Lee Ann Peele, Organist

(Cell #336-420-2728 Home #336-632-1985)
Paul Freeman, Choir Director
Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst

First Reformed United Church of Christ



Where People Discover - - -

The Love of God

The Power to Love Others

The Ability to Love Ourselves

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