

September 5, 2021

CENTERING MUSIC- Come as you are

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all you who are weary.

We come, eager to find rest from our labors.

Come, all you who are weary.

We come, eager to find renewal for our spirits.

Come, all you who are weary.

We come, eager to find strength for tomorrow.

Come, all you who are weary.

We come, eager to find your presence, your power, and your peace, God.

***SONG** My Lighthouse

PRAYER OF THE DAY

In the beginning, Holy God, you labored with many skills to bring creation to birth and sustain life. When you saw that your labor was good, you took time for a day of rest. Forgive us for the times we have used our skills for gain and cruelty. Give us work to do that creates and sustains life. Forgive us for the times when our own importance was so great to us that there was no time for rest, no time for letting others lead, no time for other than our own sense of perfection. Remind us to follow your example, call life "good" and take time for rest. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is the model for our labor – as life-giving Creator and Rest-taker, as a carpenter who knew when to withdraw for prayer, and as the spirit of energy and calm. The past is forgiven. The future lies fresh before us. And in this moment, we are free from sin and set forth for cycles of creative labor and rest. Thanks be to God!

GOD'S WORD (NEW LIVING TRANSLATION)

LUKE 12: 13-21

13 Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me."

14 Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?"

15 Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

16 Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops.

17 He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.'

18 Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods.

19 And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'

21 “Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God.”

Matthew 25:14-30

14 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone.

15 He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.

16 “The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more.

17 The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more.

18 But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master’s money.

19 “After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money.

20 The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, ‘Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.’

21 “The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’

22 “The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.’

23 “The master said, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’

24 “Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate.

25 I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’

26 “But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate,

27 why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’

28 “Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver.

29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.

30 Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

MESSAGE **Christina Albrecht leading worship today**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORDS PRAYER

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. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***BLESSING**

DEPARTING MUSIC **Thrive**