

**October 31, 2021**

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

Pastor: Jesus commands us to put off our old ways of living and put on a new life that is guided by the two greatest laws God gave us.

People: There are no greater commandments than to love God with all our being and love our neighbor as ourselves. They are two sides of the same coin.

Pastor: We cannot love the Lord our God without loving our neighbor as well. And whenever we show love for our neighbor, we are also expressing our love for God.

People: If we do not love both God and our neighbor, we are only getting it half right. We need to do both if we want to be faithful followers of Christ.

Pastor: Let us worship the Lord and pray that we will be taught, challenged and changed into more faithful disciples of Jesus.

#HYMN No. #70                    O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison):

Gracious God, in Jesus you provided everything we need for faithful, fruitful living. As we worship together this morning, come into our presence and open our ears to hear anew the great commandments of love for you and our neighbor, and open our minds to comprehend their wisdom and eternal value; because if all people chose to obey and live their lives in accordance with those two instructions, we would be doing your will here on earth as it is in heaven, and your Kingdom would come in all its glory. We ask these things in the name of Jesus our Savior, who taught us to pray like this, saying:

#PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (Unison)

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, for ever. Amen.

#GLORIA PATRI (Unison):

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen.

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READINGS Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Mark 12:28-34 (Bible pages)

SERMON MESSAGE:     Getting It Half Right                     Rev. Gagnon

#HYMN No.   #403             Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

## PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Invitation to Pray and Receiving the Prayer Request Slips  
 Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer  
 Organ Response

## OFFERTORY

Offertory Invitation  
 Offertory Music  
 # Doxology (#45 – Old Hundredth)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Receive from us, O God, the best we have to give, as an expression of our great love for you. Since everything we have really belongs to you, we return a portion with joy to support the ministries of this church and, through those ministries, love you with all we have and all we are, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Bless these offerings and bless us, as well, so that the needs of others may be addressed in ways that bring hope, grace and peace to them. Amen.

#HYMN No.   #504             God of Justice, God of Mercy

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: These are the greatest of all the commandments. Love God with all your heart and soul. Honor God with all your mind and strength. Love and care for your neighbor the way you love and care for yourself.

People: We will use the great commandments of love for God and neighbor to guide us in life as we follow Jesus.

Pastor: Remember that you cannot obey one and not obey the other. If you do love God but not your neighbor, you are only getting it half right.

People: May God write these laws of love on our hearts and grant us power to keep them.

Pastor: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE