

**OCTOBER 18, 2020**

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

Pastor: Listen, sisters and brothers. The Spirit of God is calling to us with sighs too deep for human words.

People: The Spirit of God is summoning us into the divine presence just as we are, while encouraging us to grow and become the people we were intended to be.

Pastor: The Spirit of God is addressing each of us by name, affirming our identity as God's own beloved children.

People: The Spirit of God is present in our midst now, and marks us as beings who are made in God's own image and likeness.

Pastor: Come, let us worship the Lord together.

#HYMN #257                      *This is the Day*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison):

Almighty God, we live in a world where the secular and the sacred exist together, and we find ourselves trying to serve two masters at once: both Caesar and you. We often spread ourselves too thin, giving ourselves to our families, our work, our own needs and desires, and to you. We have come together this morning to get our priorities straight, because sometimes we forget that the world and everything in it is yours, and we put other "gods" before you. Thank you for creating us in your divine image, dear Lord; now we ask you to help us recognize your image and likeness in others as well, and treat them accordingly. Bless us with your presence and receive our worship and praise, as we strive to open our hearts and minds to all you want to reveal to us today. 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 22:15-22

SERMON MESSAGE: *The Things that are God's*

Rev. Gagnon

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Prayer Requests

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

#Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Gracious God, we are honored that you have entrusted to us the stewardship of your creation. The earth is yours and everything in it, and the people and nations of this world have no right to hoard the resources you have provided, but instead should use them for the common good. Bless our offerings, we pray, not for our own private use or personal gain, but to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all and to extend a helping hand and uplifting word to those who are burdened and in need. We pray that our efforts and our ministry may find favor with you. Amen

#HYMN #368

*Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*

BENEDICTION (Responsive):

Pastor: This time of worship has ended. After you leave, listen for the Holy Spirit to lead you in the way God wants you to go.

People: We will open ourselves to the Lord and to the guidance the Lord provides; we will continually seek God's presence in our lives.

Pastor: Enter this coming week with confident enthusiasm. Search diligently for the good that God is continually doing, even when things are bad.

People: The Spirit of God will always be present within and among us, to remind us that we were made in God's own image and likeness and are destined for Eternal Life.

Pastor: Praise be to God for marking us as His precious and beloved children. Now, go forth and extend God's love to all.

DISMISSAL