

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 2020

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Mary MacDonald

Invocation:

Come together, everyone
And bring your stories
And sing your songs
And share in the Spirit.
Let your feelings paint the sky
Like a rainbow of banners and balloons...
And let even the silence speak
With a thousand voices
In tribute to our loving, living God
And in celebration of our lives –
The priceless gift God has given us.

Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, *Tough Holiness*, New York: The Pilgrim Press, 1990, p. 171

Hymn: #475 - "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (see insert)

Call to Confession:

Beloved, God does not disappoint those who come in hope, nor does God turn away those who approach in faith. Let us make our confession to God in hope and faith.

Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, *Tough Holiness*, New York: The Pilgrim Press, 1990, p. 193.

Prayer of Confession:

Let us now join in our call to confession.

God our Creator, we offer our prayer as persons who often feel less than whole. We have experienced losses that have diminished us. We have found our attention to your will divided by other claims upon us. We have discovered how difficult it is to fulfill our best intentions.

God our Sustainer, we offer our prayer as a people that often feels less than whole. We have sensed an incompleteness to our unity whenever the differences between us seem more important than the one Spirit that gives us common life. We have practiced a fractional faith. We have divided our loyalties in ways that do not allow full service to you, our One and only God. So let us make our confession, first in a moment of silent prayer.

Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, *Tough Holiness*, New York: The Pilgrim Press, 1990, p. 195.

Assurance of Pardon: Receive this refreshing word:

Friends, you are forgiven. Christ enabled us to enjoy the fullness of God's love. Christ strengthens us and inspires us to whole-hearted devotion. We pray with voices united in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, *Tough Holiness*, New York: The Pilgrim Press, 1990, p. 195, slightly adapted.

Response: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; In the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God: do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. (#654)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Keith Osterland

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer: Let us join together in one Spirit as we pray for the needs of our church, our community, nation, and the world.

Hymn: #792 "There Is a Balm in Gilead" (see insert)

Scripture Reading: Luke 13:10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of

the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Sermon: **A Modern Parable: The Stopped Woman**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith (see insert)

The Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts:

Hymn: #630 "Fairest Lord Jesus" (see insert)

Benediction

Silent Prayer

Postlude: "Postlude Festival on "A Mighty Fortress" Victor Johnson

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

Rev. Robert W. Birch, Minister

Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of James & Betty Smith
Given by David & Karen Smith Homsher Family**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

PRAYER FAMILY THIS WEEK: Fran Sattazahn

Leacock Presbyterian Church

*First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in
1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.*



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