

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 3, 2021

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

WELCOME

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We have trusted in You, Eternal God, and that trust brings us to this time of worship. In this place, Your steadfast love becomes evident again as we sing our songs of thanksgiving and tell of Your wondrous deeds. We are grateful for the life and witness of Jesus, whom You sent among people to make possible our reconciliation and healing. For the saving grace available wherever You reign, we give thanks. Help us to be childlike, to receive Your blessing, and to welcome Your embrace. Take us into Your arms, we pray.

AMEN

OPENING HYMN: "Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power" (#178 Red)

Author: Horatius Bonar (1858), Tune: O QUANTA QUALIA. (Public Domain)

- 1)** Blessing and honor and glory and power,
Wisdom and riches and strength evermore
Give ye to him who our battle hath won,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.
- 2)** Soundeth the heaven of the heavens with his name;
Ringeth the earth with his glory and fame;
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower
Echo his praises and tell of his power.
- 3)** Ever ascendeth the song and the joy;
Ever descendeth the love from on high;
Blessing and honor and glory and praise—
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
- 4)** Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we recognize the greatness and glory of God we are moved to repent of misdeeds and broken relationships. In the light of God's love we reach to become more fully what God intends for us to be and to do. Let us seek forgiveness and reconciliation.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, You have made us for human companionship, but we have chosen our own lonely way. You have called us to make commitments and to live by them, but we have violated our promises and made excuse for ourselves. You have created us to reflect Your glory, but we have turned away from the example and sacrifice of Christ to seek our own way. Turn us back from our limited vision and hardness of heart to become more fully Your own people.

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Blessed is everyone who fears God and walks in God's ways. By the grace of God, Jesus tasted death for everyone and triumphed over it so we may experience newness of life. Praise God! AMEN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: (10:30 AM Service)

HOLY SCRIPTURES: Genesis 2:18-24, Mark 10:1-16

GENESIS 2:18-24

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

MARK 10:1-16

² Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

³ "What did Moses command you?" he replied.

⁴ They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

⁵ "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. ⁶ "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' ⁷ 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, ⁸ and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰ When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. ¹¹ He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. ¹² And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

The Little Children and Jesus

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON: "One Flesh"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S 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. 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, forever. AMEN

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, You have called Your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. AMEN

UNISON BENEDICTION

We are united in love that lasts for eternity. The imprint of God's love is on our lives. It is a privilege to reflect God's glory each day.

CLOSING HYMN: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (#506 NCH)

Author: Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1855). Tune: CONVERSE. (Public Domain)

**1) What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!**

What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

2) Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

3) Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

*Please visit www.stdavidsucc.com/announcements to stay up-to-date with all the church happenings.