Invitation to the Offering

OFFERTORY This Is My Song Jack Brooks

*Doxology #607

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

—Sending—

*HYMN # 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Azmon Jack Brooks

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.



Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences



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October 13, 2024

21st Sunday after Pentecost

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit **Bold Italic Letters** indicate congregational response

— Gathering —

PRELUDE Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
WELCOME

Jack Brooks

Liturgist: John Tieken

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 136:1-3)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the God of gods,

for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the Lord of lords,

for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN # 722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, we often wonder what we must do to be right with you. The gospel tells us what you have done for us in Jesus Christ to make us right with you. We establish rules and try to follow them to win your love. You call us to trust in your grace and promises in Jesus Christ. We strive for security by piling up the things of this life. Jesus says, "Come, follow me." Lord, forgive our self-centeredness that seeks our well-being while we ignore the needs of others. Forgive our relying on ourselves rather than accepting fully Jesus's call to discipleship. Help us to seek your kingdom and righteousness first in our lives. Through Jesus Christ, amen .

Assurance of Pardon (based on 1 Timothy 1:15)

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,

that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Children of God, hear and believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI #581

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, amen.

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Job 23:1-9, 16-17Bible p. 446-447, LG p. 580-581

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Hebrews 4:12-16Bible p. 206-207, LG p. 267

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Bible p. 43-44, LG p. 56

SERMON God's Possibilities Commissioned Pastor: Jimmy Chapman

-Response-

*HYMN # 475 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Declaration of Faith)

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet.

Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.