

The Order for the Worship of God

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2017

Ten o'clock a.m.

The Service of Preparation

Silent Preparation

Saving God, I stand in awe before the mystery of your providence. Through our sometimes desperate decisions and fearful circumstances, you work your loving will. Give me patient confidence in troubled times and gratitude when things go well, knowing that all things are in your hand. Amen.

Philip Reinders

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

WELCOME GUEST MUSICIAN

Minerva Lermond, Mezzo-soprano

The Prelude

✦ The Call to Worship (from Psalm 124)

Leader: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, then the flood would have swept us away.

People: Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Come, let us worship our God!

✦ The Hymn of Adoration No. 97

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

The Prayers of Adoration and Thanksgiving

The Prayers of Silent Confession and Repentance

The Assurance of Forgiveness

✦ The Gloria Patri No. 622

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.

The Response to God's Work in Our Lives

The Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory "Of the Fathers Love Begotten" Jean Pasquet

Rhonda Gage and Minerva Lermond, Sopranos

✦ Doxology No. 625

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.

✦ The Prayer of Dedication

The Hymn of Meditation..... No. 88

Fairest Lord Jesus (vv. 1, 4)

The Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Ministry of the Word

The Scripture Reading Romans 12:1-8

(pp. 947-48 in pew bible)

Special Music "Set Me As A Seal Upon Thine Heart" Michael Larkin

The Sermon "Living Sacrifices" Rev. King

✦ The Hymn of Dedication No. 513

O, How He Loves You and Me

✦ The Benediction

✦ Congregational Response #380 (chorus) *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

*Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily, walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

Postlude

✦ Please stand if you are able

Elder/Reader – Sharon Eastlack

Acolyte – Cyle Willis

*The flowers at the pulpit today are presented to the glory
of God by the Deacons in memory of loved ones.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Sun. 08/27** Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.
Tues. 08/29 Women's Services, 5:45-7:30 p.m.
Wed. 08/30 Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/30 Shannon Pickar

9/02 Ryliegh McAllister

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

9/2/1995 Earl & Randi Gage

REMINDER- payment due.....If you participated in the CPR/AED training held at the church on Saturday, July 29th, your portion of the payment is \$20. If you should have any questions, please see Elder Kym Owens or call the church office. Thank you!

SERMONS FOR THE SUNDAYS OF FALL

September 3, "Get Behind Me, Satan!", Matthew 16:21-28

September 10, "Regaining Relationships", Matthew 18:15-20

September 17, "Don't Let Your Forgiver Get Broken",
Matthew 18:21-35

September 24, "Is This Any Way to Run a Business?",
Matthew 20:1-16

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST

Quinton and Hancock's Bridge Churches Salem NJ

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:

Ellie Hall - Wycliffe Bible Translator in Thailand
Revs. Dwayne & Janet Doyle - Living in Haddon Heights NJ,
and seeking a new call.
Trinity Preparatory School - Matt & Chanda Williams

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY'S LEADERS & THOSE IN THE MILITARY:

Mark Lindle... U.S. Navy
James Morrison... U.S. Air Force
Jamie Spears... U.S. Navy
Andrew Spears... Delaware Air National Guard
Matthew Kemm, M.D... U.S. Army Medical Corps
Austin Brown... U.S. Air Force



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Elvena Eastlack, Recovering from second major back surgery.
(Sister-in-law of David & Sharon Eastlack)
Charis and Ana Williams, Undergoing treatment for Lyme
Disease and related complications.
Peg Ingram, Recovering from Lyme Disease.
First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Continue to pray for the
work of the Pastoral Nominating Committee. We are still sorting
through resumes presented to us. Please pray that God's
candidate will surface in a timely manner and that we will be able
to make the call with the assurance that the Lord is directing our
choice. Pray for each one of us (Reid, Earl, Chris, Kym, Erin and
Wendy) that we will continue to do this work faithfully,
committed to the task that you, the congregation, has given us.
Pray for John also, giving thanks for his ability to joyfully
shepherd this flock while he waits for this interim season to come
to a close.
Colton Colican, Recovering from extensive injuries resulting from
an auto accident. (Friend of Lindsey Zieger)
Ann Eber, 94 years old; prayers for chronic health concerns. (Mike
Eber's mother)
Mike Smith, Prayers for serious health issues. (Friend of Keith &
Shirley Campbell)
Harry Springer, Prayers for severe health issues. (Friend of David
Eastlack)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: (CONTINUED)

Connie DiArchangelo, Prayers for recent diagnosis of serious
health issues. (Mother of a friend of Reid Willis)
Linda Stokes, Prayers for serious health issues. (Friend of Erin
Owens.)
Terry Zieger's sister, Serious health problems.
Robert Parker, Health concerns. (Friend of David Eastlack)
Brandon Bush, (Friend of Reid Willis)
Bob Hyatt, (Friend of Reid Willis)
Elizabeth Colucci, Prayers for health concerns. (Carol Ives' niece)
Rev. Jack & Martha Schilthuis, Prayers for health issues.
Alexander Fiorillo, Diagnosed with a spinal tumor.
(Joe's piano coach)
Sarah Doyle, Continued prayers. (Rev. Dwayne & Janet Doyle's
daughter)
Linda Grant, Prayers for serious health concerns and treatment.
(Friend of the Warren/Owens Families)
Sam Elliot, Continued prayers during cancer treatment.
(Mother works at the Oak Diner in Salem)
Steve Silagi, Prayers for health concerns and surgery.
(Friend of Betty Simpkins)
Gene Zieger's father, Prayers for chronic health issues.
Bernie Weber, Prayers for serious health concerns.
(Friend of David & Sharon Eastlack)
Bill Wilkinson, Receiving treatment for spinal tumor.
(Friend of the Kings)
Caroline Hickman, Prayers during cancer treatment.
(16 year old daughter of a co-worker of Keith Campbell)
Father Michael J. Doyle, Diagnosed with mouth cancer.
(Parish Priest of Chris Davenport's coworker)
Dawn Kimble, Prayers for health issues.
Terry Zieger, Prayers for health concerns.
Robert Pollack, Continued prayers. (Steve Pollack's brother)
Donna Bacon, Continued prayers for health issues.
Bob & Maureen McCook, Chronic health issues.
(John King's sister & brother-in-law)
Carol Lee, Diagnosed with cancer. (Friend of Sharon Eastlack)
Amy Ricketts, Continued prayers for health issues.
Galen & Sara Lenhart, Continued prayers. (Beth Davenport's
parents)
Biba Kavass, Continued prayers. (Friend of Beth Davenport)

Sermon Notes

I. Living Sacrifices

Romans 12:1-8

A newspaper columnist made this observation:
Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up. It knows it must run faster than the fastest lion or it will be killed. Every morning, a lion wakes up. It knows it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve to death. It doesn't matter whether you are a lion or a gazelle; when the sun comes up, you'd better be running."

Lots of us are sitting here today exhausted from the never-ending race that marks our lives. Many people are running and they aren't even sure why they're running. Others are running because they are trying their best to keep just a step ahead of financial failure, a family crisis or a personal problem. In most cases, we feel like the gazelle. We're running for our lives, and we're running out of breath.

A. Key words that serve as flags or sign-posts to guide us through this passage.

1. "therefore" - Links all that Paul has written prior to chapter 12 (theology of our salvation) and the call to action that begins in verse 1.

2. "mercies", "grace" - Indicates that we do not have the empowerment to work out our salvation on our own, but can only proceed because of God's initiative.

a. The "mercies of God" (v. 1) empower us in our helplessness and sinfulness and enable us to respond in ways that are "holy" and "acceptable" to God (v. 1).

b. By the "grace" given to us, we receive a measure of faith as a gift of God that is to

be used through our living, sacrificial service to him (v. 3). Through this same

"grace", we are given gifts to use which identify our

ministries in the one body of

Christ and characterize the spirit of our service in the body (vv. 4-8).

3. "present" or "offer" - From the Greek word *paristemi*, a technical term used in conjunction with offering sacrifices in worship.

a. Paul now challenges the church to present our bodies i.e., our whole selves, all that is within us, as "living sacrifices". Not a one-time sacrifice as was the case in temple worship, but a continuing sacrifice that is made possible by the mercies and grace of God.

4. "holy" and "acceptable" - These were also technical terms that would have been familiar in the sacrificial worship of the temple.

a. Just as only sacrifices which were holy (set apart) and acceptable to God (see

Malachi 1 & 2) were to be offered in the temple, our living sacrifice must also, by his mercy and grace, be holy and acceptable.

B. Two kinds of sacrificial offerings.

1. Those which led to reconciliation.

2. Those that celebrated reconciliation which had taken place.

3. These actions and celebrations comprise our "spiritual worship" (v. 1).

C. Proof in action - verse 2.

1. "Do not be conformed to the world;" "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its mold" - Phillips.

2. Instead, through the grace and mercy of God, "be transformed ('remolded from within' - Phillips) by the renewal of your mind."

3. Then we can work out (discern, prove) in our lives and ministries what God's good, acceptable and perfect will is.

a. There is a lot of trial and error involved here. There will be failure, joy, heartache and celebration and, in it all, we are enveloped in the mercies and grace of God.