

THE PEOPLE CALLED OF GOD
GATHER TO WORSHIP AT
BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Heritage Sunday
August 1, 2010

* All who are able are invited to stand. Please stand to sing all hymns unless the leader says otherwise.

Congregational responses are printed in **bold type**.

PRELUDE "Madrigal, Op. 52, No. 2"

Guilmant

RINGING OF THE BELLS

We Enter the Presence of God

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 107)

Leader: We are gathered in from east and west, from north and south,

People: **to give thanks to God, whose steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Saved by God's mercy, we remember God's goodness and bountiful grace.

People: **Like travelers lost in the immense deserts of this land,**

Leader: those fleeing from Egypt sought desperately for water and food in the barren wilderness.

People: **They cried out to God, who gave them guidance and direction;**

Leader: feeding their hunger with miraculous manna and quenching their thirst with rock-yielding water.

People: **We give thanks to God whose goodness and steadfast love endures forever**

* HYMN No. 687 "In Christ There is No East or West"

* PRAYER

Leader: Let us bring to God our confession that we may be healed by God's grace.

Merciful God, we rejoice that you have graced our lives with the life of Jesus. You enable us to 'set our minds' on Jesus as Lord and Savior, and to experience a newness of life which transcends all else. You empower us to put to death all those things which oppose this new life in Christ.

People: **We confess, however, that there are still times when we 'set our minds' on unworthy and ultimately destructive pursuits:**

Leader: Pursuits in which the need to acquire and possess, threaten the selfless quality of life in Christ. When our attitude towards others is hostile and aggressive,

People: **we strip off the compassion that life in Christ possesses.**

Leader: When relationships are soured by bitterness and jealousy,

People: **we strip off the joy that life in Christ reveals.**

Leader: When we put others down through our prejudice and discrimination,

People: **we strip off the love that life in Christ imparts.**

Leader: When selfishness and greed contribute to our lifestyle,

People: **we strip off the generosity that life in Christ delights in.**

Leader: Merciful God, re-clothe us with the life of Christ, and renew us in his image and knowledge, so that the grace, humility and service which marked his life will be clearly visible in and experienced through our lives.

People: **This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

* 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.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away. All this is from God, to whom we have been reconciled through Christ and so - rejoice - for in Christ, we are forgiven, we are healed, we are renewed.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(All are invited to greet each other with the ancient greeting, "The peace of Christ be with you,"... "And also with you.")

*THE GLORIA PATRI No. 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,**

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All are welcome to take Communion.]

INVITATION

Elder: This is the joyful feast of the Lord.
People come from east and west,
from north and south,
and eat at the table of the Lord

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

[The Prayer of Thanksgiving . . .]

Leader: And so we praise you with the faithful of every time
and place,
joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in
this eternal hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[text]

CONSECRATION

[text]

Leader: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy.

People: **Amen.**

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Marcia Meabon

* HYMN No. 422 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

* COMMISSION

Leader: Go into the world
embraced by God’s love,
re clothed with the life of Jesus Christ,
built up with the riches of the Holy Spirit.

People: **We go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord.**

* BENEDICTION

Leader: May God’s face shine upon us; may Christ’s peace rule among us; may the Spirit’s fire burn within us, as we scatter into the world until we meet again.

People: **Amen.**

* RESPONSE Hymn No 568 vs. 1 “Tis the Gift to Be Simple”

POSTLUDE “Sortie (Fughetta)”

Dubois

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Credits:

Thanks to Sue Buday and Joe Eadie for assisting in today’s worship.
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