

Service for the Lord's Day

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 2015

Enter in humility. For this is God's House.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Jesus, keep us from becoming a stumbling block.
Help us to be salt and to be at peace with God and neighbor. Amen.*

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Bert Lowe

*INTROIT #468

"In My Life" (v.1)

Kilpatrick, 1978

*CALL TO WORSHIP

What good is it if we say we love all people, but give special treatment to a few?

God calls us to love others as deeply as we love ourselves, with no strings attached.

What good is it if we say we want God to show mercy towards us, but are quick to judge others?

God calls us to forgive our sisters and brothers, to let mercy triumph over judgment.

What good is it if we say we trust God in every moment, but live guided by our fears?

We will speak and act as those who trust God to come and live in our fearful hearts.

For both the stranger and the guest,

The Lord prepares a table. We have come to worship this God!

*HYMN #645

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" (v.1-3)

Bell, 1906

CALL TO CONFESSION

Sometimes our words and actions show how we are salt for the world. But then come those moments when we lose our flavor and our way. Let us confess our sins to our God, so we might be restored and forgiven. Let us pray first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Called to be your people, Living God - why do we find it so hard to answer that call? You ask us to speak out against injustice, and we whisper because we are afraid someone might hear us. You ask us to see the pain and poverty around us, but we close our eyes, so we won't have to look. You tell us that everyone, and each one, is created in your image, yet we persist in

noticing the differences between us and others. Forgive us, Holy God. May we be the ones who go out into the world, bearing your gifts of peace, of hope, of healing, of joy to every one who is broken, even as we have been made whole through the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Touched by the healing hands of our Lord, filled with the grace of our God, led by the compassion of the Spirit, our hearts are opened and we discover we are forgiven and at peace with God. God's mercy is ours!

We were created to love the unlovable; we were created to bear our Lord's grace; we were created to embrace God's people. So, we receive forgiveness, giving thanks to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

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.

#580

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Bibles, p. 124 / LG. p. 161

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN #471

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Berthier, 1982

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Mark 9: 38-50

Bibles, p. 42 / LG. p. 55

The Word of God, for the People of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Salty or Sweet?"

Rev. Candice L. Klein

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

