



First
Presbyterian
Church
Henderson, Texas

NINETEENTH SUNDAY

AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

OPENING SENTENCES

Come, all who hunger for good news.

We thirst for words of hope and healing.

Come, from rural road and city street.

We gather at the King's invitation.

Come, join the celebration.

Let us worship the Lord!

MUSIC

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist, John Tieken

CONFESSION

In humility and faith, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Extravagant God, you invite us to your table in the kingdom of heaven. But we do not take our place at the feast. We say, "We have more important things to do," and turn back to labors that threaten to consume us. Beckon us again, we pray, that we may respond with gratitude. In your mercy, gather us in that we might experience the joy of your kingdom and taste the abundance of your grace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! ***Thanks be to God.***

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Our first reading today is from the Hebrew scripture book of Exodus chapter 32, verses 1 through 14. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Our gospel reading is from the gospel according to Matthew chapter 22, verses 1 through 14. Hear the word of the Lord.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

"Idols and Ignored Invitations"

Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. ***Amen.***

MUSIC

— Response —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the church . . . Fix our minds on what is honorable and true, pure and just, pleasing and commendable—whatever is excellent and worthy of praise.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth . . . We wait for you, our only hope of salvation: prepare a feast of plenty for all creatures; destroy the shroud of death cast over us.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations . . . Show your favor to those who love your way, who observe justice and do what is right; bless them with prosperity and peace.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community . . . Let your church be a refuge for the poor and a sanctuary for those in distress, to shelter them from every storm.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones . . . Remember those who mourn: wipe away the tears of their eyes and give them the hope of new life in you.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us—in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys, until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER—UNISON

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.

MUSIC

Joshua Allen

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

While we continue to worship in this adapted format, our mission inside and outside of the church building continues. Thank you for your consistent and generous gifts of time, talent and treasure!

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love in our world and in our lives. As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace, and hope, planted deeply in our community.
Amen.

— Sending —

BLESSING AND CHARGE

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come—first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. **Amen.**

MUSIC

“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”

