



# TWENTIETH SUNDAY

## AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020

— Gathering —

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

### OPENING SENTENCES

Exalt the Almighty  
and worship at God's holy mountain,  
*for the Lord our God is holy.*  
Look! The Lord draws near;  
come into the presence of the Holy One.  
*Let us behold the glory of our God.*

### MUSIC

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist, Carol Scoggins

### CONFESSION

Therefore, with confidence, let us present our whole selves before the Lord.

*Living Lord, in you we live and move and have our being. You call us to give all that we are and all that we have in service to Christ. But we hold tightly to our treasure, afraid we will not have enough for ourselves, and hold back our talents, afraid these gifts will not be enough. God, unclench our fists and help us to give fully and freely so that, in all things, we might serve and glorify you.*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace! *Thanks be to God.*

— Word —

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE

Our first reading today is from Exodus in the Hebrew scriptures. chapter 33, verses 12 through 23.  
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 15 through 22.  
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

*"Recognizing God"*

Rev. Michele R. Goff

### DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

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

## — Response —

### MUSIC

#### 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 . . . Make us steadfast in our love and service, remembering your people in our prayers and giving thanks to you in all things.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth . . . Let the whole earth sing a new song to you: a song of redemption, of gladness and joy; a song of thanksgiving for your saving grace.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations . . . In every place, anoint faithful leaders, who know your name and seek your will, who share your love of justice and peace.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community . . . Break down the walls that divide us; bend the bars that imprison us in fear; open the doors that lead to new life.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones . . . Speak healing to those who are hurting; give courage to those who are afraid; let your grace and peace be known to all.  
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”*

