**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**June 19, 2022**



*“Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.”*

*(Luke 8:36)*

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**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (*spoken responsively*)

L: Holy Jesus, our rock and our salvation

**P: Direct our ways in your holy light O Lord**

L: Send out your light and your truth

**P: Let them lead me to your holy hill**

L: We will build a life of faith in God

**P: Let it bring me to your dwelling O God**

L: O Lord, show us your ways

**P: Lord increase our faith**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “To God Be the Glory” #33 (vv.1-3)

**To God be the glory, great things he hath done!**

**So loved he the world that he gave us his Son**

**Who yielded his life an atonement for sin**

**And opened the life-gate that all may go in**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the earth hear his voice**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the people rejoice**

**O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son**

**And give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**O perfect redemption the purchase of blood**

**To ev’ry believer the promise of God**

**The vilest offender who truly believes**

**That moment from Jesus a pardon receives**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the earth hear his voice**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the people rejoice**

**O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son**

**And give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**Great things he hath taught us**

**Great things he hath done**

**And great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son**

**But purer, and higher, and greater will be**

**Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the earth hear his voice**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

**Let the people rejoice**

**O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son**

**And give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: O Lord, we ask of you, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of your holy name. For you never fail us to help and govern those who you have set upon your sure foundation of your loving-kindness. May we proclaim your grace with truth and boldness as we minister your justice and compassion. May our faith be steadfast, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples…

**P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done in 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. 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.​**

**First Scripture Lesson:** 1 Kings 19:1-15

 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.”

 Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.”

 Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, “Get up and eat.”

 He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, “Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.”

 He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

 He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

 He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.”

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

 Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.”

**Prayer of Confession**

L: Lord, by your grace, enlighten our understanding, strengthen our will, purify our hearts, and make us holy...

**P:** **I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, rank me with whom You will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by You or laid aside for You; exalted for You or brought low by You. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You are mine, and I am Yours. So be it. Amen.**

**Affirmation of Faith:** Psalm 42

**P: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, “Where is your God?” These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.**

**Hymn of Affirmation:** “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind” #472 (vv.1-2,4)

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

**Forgive our foolish ways**

**Reclothe us in our rightful mind**

**In purer lives thy service find**

**In deeper reverence, praise**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard**

**Beside the Syrian sea**

**The gracious calling of the Lord**

**Let us, like them without a word**

**Rise up and follow Thee**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire**

**Thy coolness and thy balm**

**Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire**

**Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire**

**O still, small voice of calm**

**Second Scripture Lesson:** Galatians 3:23-29

 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**Children’s Sermon**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 8:26-39

 Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me” for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

 Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion” for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.

 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

**Sermon:**

**Prayer of Response**

**Hymn of Response:** “Faith Is the Victory” #446 (vv.1-2,4)

**Encamped along the hills of light**

**Ye Christian soldiers rise**

**And press the battle ere the night**

**Shall veil the glowing skies**

**Against the foe in vales below**

**Let all our strength be hurled**

**Faith is the victory, we know**

**That overcomes the world**

**Faith is the victory!**

**Faith is the victory!**

**O glorious victory**

**That overcomes the world**

**His banner over us is love**

**Our sword the Word of God**

**We tread the road the saints above**

**With shouts of triumph trod**

**By faith, they like a whirlwind’s breath**

**Swept on o’er every field**

**The faith by which they conquered death**

**Is still our shining shield**

**Faith is the victory!**

**Faith is the victory!**

**O glorious victory**

**That overcomes the world**

**To him that overcomes the foe**

**White raiment shall be giv’n**

**Before the angels he shall know**

**His name confessed in heav’n**

**Then onward from the hills of light**

**Our hearts with love aflame**

**We’ll vanquish all the hosts of night**

**In Jesus’ conqu’ring name**

**Faith is the victory!**

**Faith is the victory!**

**O glorious victory**

**That overcomes the world**

**Offering**

L:Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of we do not see. Let us throw off every weight that hinders and entangles us. Live in faith, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** “In My Heart There Rings a Melody” #350 (vv.1-3)

**I have a song that Jesus gave me**

**It was sent from heav'n above**

**There never was a sweeter melody**

**'Tis a melody of love**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody with heaven's harmony**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody of love**

**I love the Christ who died on Calv'ry**

**For He washed my sins away**

**He put within my heart a melody**

**And I know it's there to stay**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody with heaven's harmony**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody of love**

**'Twill be my endless theme in glory**

**With the angels I will sing**

**'Twill be a song with glorious harmony**

**When the courts of heaven ring**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody with heaven's harmony**

**In my heart there rings a melody**

**There rings a melody of love**

**\*Benediction**

L: God has made its name known to us through the Apostles. The faith of those who intercessions and actions have spread the word by the power of the Holy Spirit. Let your faith continue to grow to increase the God’s kingdom. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.