**Saginaw First Free Methodist Church**

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**November 6, 2022**



*“Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."*

 *(Luke 20:38)*

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**Proper 27 (32)**

**November 6, 2022**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

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

L: Take heart! For we are gathered in the Father’s presence

**P: To proclaim the wonders of the Lord**

L: Get up! For we are beckoned by the Risen Son

**P: To respond to grace undeserved**

L: God is calling us! For we are united by the Spirit

**P: To follow Jesus on the way**

L: Come, let us worship God together

**P: We will live the mystery of God’s amazing grace**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “Praise to the Lord, The Almighty” #20 (vv. 1-4)

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation**

**All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near**

**Join me in glad adoration**

**Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth**

**Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth**

**Has thou not seen how thy desires all have been**

**Granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee**

**Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee**

**Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do**

**If with His love he befriend thee**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!**

**All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him**

**Let the amen sound from his people again**

**Gladly forever adore Him**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: Almighty God, you have sent Jesus to show us how to live. Grant us the power of your Holy Spirit so that we may follow him in faithfulness all the days of our lives. May we live today, in Christ’s presence, remembering he is near and will sustain us as we serve in his name. Teach me, O Lord, thy holy way, 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:** Haggai 1:15-2:9

 In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing?

 Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the LORD; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD; work, for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear.

 For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the LORD of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

**Prayer of Confession**

L: Being entrusted with the way of life; May God’s grace enlighten our understanding, strengthen our will, purify our hearts, and make us holy...

**P:** **In thought, word, and action, whether directed to myself or my neighbor, I must never trouble about worldly position, celebrity, human esteem, but respect the poor equally with the rich. I must take as much trouble about the humblest workman as about a prince, since God appeared as a humble workman. Always, for myself, seek the lower place, and be as low as my Master, so as to be with him and walk in his steps like a faithful follower and disciple. I must position myself to be next to Christ, my Master and my Lord, who was the outcast of his people. Amen.**

**Affirmation of Faith:** Psalm 145

**P: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

**Hymn of Affirmation:** “O Master Let Me Walk with Thee” #552 (vv.1-4)

**O Master, let me walk with Thee**

**In lowly paths of service free**

**Tell me Thy secret, help me bear**

**The strain of toil, the fret of care**

**Help me the slow of heart to move**

**By some clear winning word of love**

**Teach me the wayward feet stay**

**And guide them in the homeward way**

**Teach me Thy patience still with Thee**

**In closer dearer company**

**In work that keeps faith sweet and strong**

**In trust that triumphs over wrong**

**In hope that sends a shining ray**

**Far down the future's broadening way**

**In peace that only Thou canst give**

**With Thee, O Master, let me live**

 **Second Scripture Lesson****:** 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

 As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction.

 He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

 But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

 So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

 **Communion**

**MINISTER: THE INVITATION**

You who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, who live in love and peace with

your neighbors and who intend to lead a new life, following the commandments

of God and walking in His holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy

sacrament to your comfort; and humbly kneeling, make your honest confession

to Almighty God.

**IN UNISON: THE GENERAL CONFESSION**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all

people, we confess that we have sinned, and we are deeply grieved as we

remember the wickedness of our past lives. We have sinned against You, Your

holiness and Your love, and we deserve only Your indignation and anger.

We sincerely repent, and we are genuinely sorry for all wrongdoing and every

failure to do the things we should. Our hearts are grieved, and we acknowledge

that we are hopeless without Your grace.

Have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for the sake of your son, our Savior, Jesus

Christ, who died for us.

Forgive us.

Cleanse us.

Give us strength to serve and please You in newness of life and to honor and praise

Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MINISTER: THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

O Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who with great mercy has promised

forgiveness to all who turn to You with hearty repentance and true faith, have

mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from our sins, make us strong and faithful in

all goodness and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CONGREGATION: THE COLLECT**Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom

no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of the

Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name,

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MINISTER: THE SANCTUS**

It is always right and proper, and our moral duty, that we should at all times and

in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the inhabitants of heaven, we

honor and adore Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying,

**CONGREGATION: THE SANCTUS (CONTINUED)**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts!

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, most high. Amen

**MINISTER: THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

We do not come to this Your table, O merciful Lord, with self-confidence and

pride, trusting in our own righteousness, but we trust in Your great and many

mercies. We are not worthy to gather the crumbs from under Your table. But You,

O Lord, are unchanging in Your mercy and Your nature is love; grant us, therefore,

God of mercy, God of grace, so to eat at this Your table that we may receive in

spirit and in truth the body of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and the merits of His

shed blood, so that we may live and grow in His likeness and, being washed and

cleansed through His most precious blood, we may evermore live in Him and He

in us. Amen.

**MINISTER: THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS**

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who gave in love Your only Son, Jesus Christ,

to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, who by His sacrifice, offered

once for all, did provide a full, perfect, and sufficient atonement for the sins of the whole world,

we come now to Your table in obedience to Your Son, Jesus Christ, who in His holy gospel

commanded us to continue a perpetual memory of His precious death until He comes

again. Hear us, O merciful Father, we humbly ask, and grant that we, receiving this bread and this cup,

as He commanded and in the memory of His passion and death, may partake of His most blessed body and blood.

In the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to

His disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

In like manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of

this, all of you, for this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of

sins; do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” Amen.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting

life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed upon Him in your heart, by faith with

thanksgiving.

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting life.

Drink this in remembrance that Christ’s blood was shed for you and be thankful.

**MINISTER: THE BENEDICTION**

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love

of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and

the Holy Spirit, be yours now and forever. Amen.

 **Children’s Sermon**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Gospel Lesson**: Luke 20:27-38

 Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

 Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.

 And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.”

**Sermon:** “”

**Prayer of Response**

**Hymn of Response:** “There is None Like You” (2x)

**There is none like You**

**No one else can touch my heart like You do**

**I can search for all eternity Lord**

**And find, there is none like You**

**There is none like You**

**No one else can touch my heart like You do**

**I can search for all eternity Lord**

**And find, there is none like You**

**Your mercy flows like a river wide**

**And healing comes from Your hand**

**Suffering children are safe in Your arms**

**There is none like You**

**There is none like You**

**No one else can touch my heart like You do**

**I can search for all eternity Lord**

**And find, there is none like You**

**Invitation of Offering**

L:The Lord Jesus Christ made the journey to death, for us, with love unfathomable. Pick up your cross and accompany Christ on the journey. Love as Christ loved you, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**

**\*Prayer**

**Philippines:** In 1949 missionaries Walter and Gertrude Groesbeck and John and Ruby Schlosser transferred from China to the Philippines. They settled on the island of Mindanao. The first Free Methodist church was constructed at Bunawan. Other missionaries soon joined the two couples. A Bible school was begun in 1955.

The Philippine FMC, a general conference, has 10 annual conferences, an urban missions district movement called Oceans of Life Ministries, and a church-in-formation among tribal groups. Established churches support and nurture new congregations. Leaders are trained at Light and Life Colleges of the Philippines Foundation, John Wesley Bible Institute (Manilla) and Light and Life Graduate School of Theology (Bancasi). Schools and feeding programs provide outreach opportunities to children; ICCM sponsors around 1,000 children. The Philippine FMC is also an integral missions-sending church.

Pray for wisdom and discernment for Bishop Alan Bacus as he leads the church and the far-reaching impact of Light and Life Colleges of the Philippines Foundation. Also pray for ICCM ministries to street children, major urban church-planting initiatives, and missionaries sent out by the Philippine FMC to other Asian countries.

**\*Closing Hymn**: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” #147 (1,2,7)

**O for a thousand tongues to sing**

**My great Redeemer’s praise**

**The glories of my God and King**

**The triumphs of his grace**

**Jesus! the name that charms our fears**

**That bids our sorrows cease**

**‘Tis music in the sinner’s ears**

**‘Tis life and health and peace**

**My gracious Master and my God**

**Assist me to proclaim**

**To spread thro’ all the earth abroad**

**The honors of Thy name**

**\*Benediction**

L: May the Father from on high give you Christ’s servants, the spirit of holiness, the fullness of power, the perfection of your ways, the truth of virtue, and the communion with the saints. Rule with the Spirit for the glory of God, as you go in peace to love and serve. Amen.