

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**August 1, 2021**

**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

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**WELCOME**

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Feed us, O God, in this time we spend together, with bread that is eternal. Unite us in a faithful response to Your saving activity. Open us now to hear and experience, deep within, the word You intend for each one of us. AMEN**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

We who are tossed about in a sea of competing images and priorities are summoned before God to be drawn back to a life centered by faith. Let us call upon God's mercy and forgiveness.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, when we let You touch the deep places within us we are moved to tears of remorse. Again and again, we violate the best You intend for us. We pursue our own whims and desires. We labor for food that perishes and ignore the Bread of Life. We take for ourselves what You intend for others, and resent Your questioning of our stewardship. We settle for fragmentation rather than work for unity. Hear our silent prayers ...**

**A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

By God's grace, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are drawn together and entrusted with gifts for the good of all. We are knit into one body for mutual support, encouragement and growth. Some of us are apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and some teachers. All of us have a part in building up the body of Christ and equipping the saints for the work of ministry. Let us give thanks for this wonderful opportunity.

**HYMN:** "Amazing Grace"

John Newton; Tune: New Britain. This hymn is in the public domain

**Verse 1**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

**Verse 2**

'Twas grace that taught my heart to  
fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear?  
The hour I first believed!

**Verse 3**

Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come:  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

**Verse 4**

When we've been there ten thousand  
years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise,  
Than when we first begun.

**HOLY SCRIPTURES:** Ephesians 4:1–16, John 6:24–35

**EPHESIANS 4:1–16**

**Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ**

<sup>1</sup> As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. <sup>8</sup> This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."

<sup>9</sup> (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) <sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

### **JOHN 6:24-35**

<sup>24</sup> Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

#### **Jesus the Bread of Life**

<sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

<sup>28</sup> Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

<sup>30</sup> So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

<sup>32</sup> Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

<sup>34</sup> "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

### **CHILDREN'S STORYTIME**

**SERMON:** "Satisfied"

## **PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

## **RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

Leader: Christ, the Bread of Life, sends us out to feed others.

**People: Whoever comes to Christ will not be hungry or thirsty.**

Leader: We will share our lives with brothers and sisters.

**All: We seek to offer them the bread from heaven.**

## **CLOSING HYMN: "Have You Counted the Cost?"**

Author: Arthur J. Hodge; This hymn is in the public domain

- 1) There's a line that is drawn by rejecting our Lord,  
Where the call of His Spirit is lost,  
And you hurry along with the pleasure-mad throng—  
Have you counted, have you counted the cost?

### **Chorus:**

Have you counted the cost, if your soul should be lost  
Tho' you gain the whole world for your own?  
Even now it may be that the line you have crossed,  
Have you counted, have you counted the cost?

- 2) You may barter your hope of eternity's morn,  
For a moment of joy at the most,  
For the glitter of sin and the things it will win —  
Have you counted, have you counted the cost? [Chorus]
  - 3) While the door of His mercy is open to you,  
Ere the depth of His love you exhaust,  
Won't you come and be healed, won't you whisper, I yield —  
I have counted, I have counted the cost. [Chorus]
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