

ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 5, 2020

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We come together, gracious God, because we have heard Your invitation. We sense that You alone know the burdens we carry. You understand our weariness. Sometimes our journey seems long and without respite. We long for the refreshment You provide as we come to worship You. Open our hearts to receive all You offer.

OPENING HYMN: "Make Me A Captive Lord"



Make Me a Captive, Lord

PARADOXY

George Matheson, 1890

Donald P. Hustad, 1953

1. Make me a cap - tive, Lord, and then I shall be free; force
2. My heart is weak and poor un - til it mas - ter find; it
3. My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine; if

me to ren - der up my sword, and I shall con - queror be; I
has no spring of ac - tion sure - it var - ies with the wind; it
it would reach the mon - arch's throne it must its crown re - sign: it

sink in life's a - larms when by my - self I stand; im -
can - not free - ly move till thou hast wrought its chain; en -
on - ly stands un - bent a - mid the clash - ing strife, when

pris - on me with - in thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.
slave it with thy match - less love, and death - less it shall reign.
on thy bos - om it has leaned, and found in thee its life.

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CHILDREN's MESSAGE: Miss Dee, "Kindness"

CALL TO CONFESSION

God is on our side, yet how easily we move away from God's side. God is eager to walk with us through the turmoil and troubles of life, yet we hide from God and flee from the only relationship that can fulfill us. God offers us rest and renewal, but we often refuse to turn away from our busy schedules to receive God's gift. Who will rescue us?

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, who rescued our spiritual ancestors from their bondage to slavery, deliver us from the sins we confess and the unknown evil we have allowed. How wretched we are, knowing what is right and good, yet failing to do it. How miserable we feel, trying to avoid wrong, yet finding ourselves in the middle of it. Break these patterns, we pray, to allow our growth in gentle and humble service.

TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The Creator of heaven and earth is our helper and will deliver us from the ways of death. We are not destined to live in bondage to our worst selves but are freed to grow in faith and trust. God promises acceptance and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. The yoke of Christ is easy and the burdens light for those who seek God's will. Thanks be to God!

HOLY SCRIPTURES:

Psalm 145:8-21 (NIV)

⁸ The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

⁹ The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

¹⁰ All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you.

¹¹ They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

¹² so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

¹⁶ You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹ He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

²⁰ The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

²¹ My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (NIV)

¹⁶ To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

¹⁷ *“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.”*

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon.”

¹⁹ The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and ‘sinners.’” But wisdom is proved right by her actions.

Rest for the Weary

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children.”

²⁶ “Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.”

²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

²⁹ “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

³⁰ “My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

SERMON: “He Is Here”

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, for ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

We rejoice that God dwells with us every day. We find rest and renewal through Christ. Take Christ's yoke upon you, for that yoke is easy. It imparts confidence and lightens our burdens.

CLOSING HYMN: *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"*

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest; —
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give: —
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark - world's light; —

1. Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on my breast."
2. The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and drink, and live."
3. Look un - to me, thy moon shall rise, And all thy day be bright."

1. I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn and sad; —
2. I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream; —
3. I looked to Je - sus, and I found In him my star, my sun; —

1. I found in him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
2. My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
3. And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav - ling days are done.

Text: CHD; Horatio Bush, 1898-1899, alt.
Music: KINGSCOLD; trad. English Melody; English Country Song, 1892; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1884.

