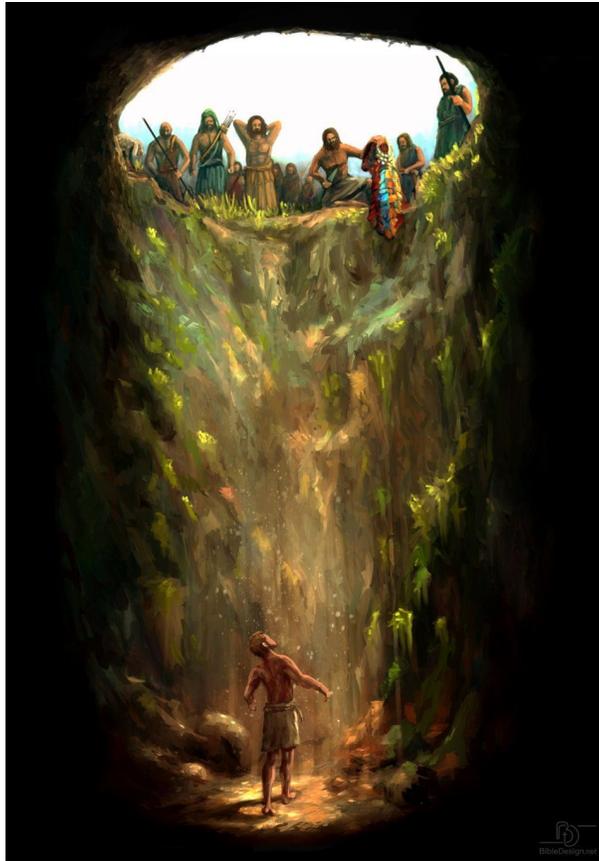


Southminster Presbyterian Church



A Service for the Worship of God *Tenth Sunday After Pentecost*

August 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

Please set out a candle that you can light as we light the Christ Candle during worship.

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Josh Sweeney

Call to Worship

Josh Sweeney

*One: O people of God scattered among North and South, East and West.
Whether you are rejoicing in new beginnings, processing and grieving endings,
or laboring through messy middles—*

All: Let us sing to God and sing praises to our Lord. We will tell of all God's wonderful works for we have seen them with our own eyes.

*One: When life gives us no easy answers and when God seems as if to be nowhere to be found, watch for the Lord and lean on God's strength;
seek God's presence continually.*

All: We remember the wonderful works the Lord has done, God's miracles, and the judgments the Lord uttered to God's servant Abraham, and the children of Jacob, the Lord's chosen ones.

One: Let us worship the Lord our God!

Hymn #781

“Hear My Cry, O God, and Save Me!”

verses 1, 2

Prayer of Confession

Josh Sweeney

Lord Jesus, we call upon you. Save us!
We are so far down in the pit and we cannot see your light.
We do not trust that you are there to save us.
How can we know that you are with us?
We have been consumed by our jealousy—
jealous of others whose lives seem better and
jealous of the safety and freedom our lives just a few months ago.
We have given into the lie
that making others smaller will make ourselves seem larger.
We envy the blessings of others,
secretly despising their dreams.
We have hardened our hearts
to the suffering of our brothers and sisters,
feeding ourselves in face of the injustice that holds them captive.
Lord Jesus, who searches our hearts,
lift us from sin and help us to walk with you in faith, humility, and brotherly-sisterly love.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Josh Sweeney

*One: Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all,
restores all through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**All: No one who believes in him will be put to shame,
for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

Response to Forgiveness “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates”

Hymn # 93, verse 3

(Organist will play once, then congregation will sing it with the soloist.)

**Redeemer come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Passing of the Peace

Ruth Whatley

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Psalm 105:1-6

Josh Sweeney

O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,
make known God's deeds among the peoples.
Sing to the Lord, sing praises to God;

tell of all God's wonderful works.
Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Seek the Lord and God's strength;
seek God's presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works God has done,
God's miracles, and the judgments God has uttered,
O offspring of God's servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.

Children's Time

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Anthem

"How Firm a Foundation"
Bell Choir

arr. Michael Ryan

Scripture Reading

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Sermon

"The Ugly Middle"

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Responding to God's Word

Hymn # 787

“God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn”

verses 1, 3

Presentation of Offerings

If you would like to give online, please go to www.sminster.com/give where you can give once or set-up a reoccurring monthly offering to the church.

Presentation Hymn *Sung to the tune of “All Creatures of Our God and King.”*

Musical score for the hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King". The score is written in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/2 time. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; Praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Josh Sweeney

Prayers of the People 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.

Hymn #840

“When Peace like a River”

omit verse 3

Benediction

Postlude