

Instructions for the Service over Zoom

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86426409625?pwd=N6SZL2PclUulASj2GOIioQr079wHG5.1>

Meeting ID: 864 2640 9625

Passcode: 640613

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Please use the chat button to convey your celebrations and your prayer concerns so that we can save them to a file and publish them in the prayer list for the congregation on Monday.

Recording this Service

We will record today's service for members and friends who cannot participate in worship at this hour. We will also post an audio of the reading and homily, as well as a print version, on the [sermons page of the church website](#). The service will be ready for viewing beginning on Monday afternoon and will be available until Saturday evening. The link to view the service will be in the Monday e-mail.

A reminder to please put your zoom audio setting on mute upon entering the service.

Thank you!

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024 10:00AM
Reverend Elva Merry, Bridge Pastor
David Cavallin, Music Director

PRELUDE

David Cavallin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Gaze into heaven and see the glory of God. Lift up your eyes to behold the living Christ.

People: **God is our rock of refuge, a strong fortress. Christ leads us and guides us every day.**

Pastor: Indeed, you have tasted the goodness of God. You have known the presence of Christ, God's chosen one.

People: **Every day, we long for pure, spiritual food. Each day, we are inspired by the living Christ.**

Pastor: Then let us lay our troubles at Christ's feet. Let us enter the sanctuary God prepares for us.

People: **We have come to find the way, the truth, and the life. We are here to ask and to receive and to serve.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Blue #64

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Most holy God, we await the touch of your Spirit with eagerness. We ask that you enter the lives of each one of us today, refreshing and renewing and healing us with the power of your loving Spirit, that we may live with purpose and enthusiasm and courage, following the example of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: **And also with you.**

You are invited to pass the peace in whatever way is comfortable for you and your neighbors. Handshakes, waves, etc.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

refrain from *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

Blue #43

Great is Thy faithfulness!

Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:1-10

CEB

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see

***Please rise in body or Spirit**

Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, “Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today.” So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus.

Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much.”

Jesus said to him, “Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham. The Human One came to seek and save the lost.”

***HYMN**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Blue #381

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

***DOXOLOGY**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Black #776

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all you have enabled us to experience. By your love, we have survived and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts that more people may come to know your amazing love in Jesus Christ. Equip us to be an inviting, caring community where all your people find a genuine welcome, where all are lifted up to new understanding and joy, for the sake of Jesus, your Son. Amen.

***Please rise in body or Spirit**

***HYMN OF DEPARTURE**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Black #386

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

David Cavallin

***Please rise in body or Spirit**

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***Following worship, all are invited to stay for an all-church meeting
being held by the Pastoral Search Committee.***



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Questions for Reflection and Sharing
September 29, 2024
Luke 19:1-10

1. What is Zacchaeus's job?

Background: N.T. Wright writes, "Nobody in Jericho liked Zacchaeus. They would have been horrified to think that, of all the inhabitants of the town, Zacchaeus would be the one known by name to millions of people two thousand years later" (Wright, Luke for Everyone, p. 222). Tax collectors were despised because they collected the excessive taxes demanded by Rome. They routinely charged the people more than Rome required, and lined their own pockets with the excess money.

2. What is the attitude of the people in the crowd toward Zacchaeus?

3. Have you ever been caught in the crush of a big crowd, at a concert or sporting event? What was the experience like?

4. How do you imagine Zacchaeus feels as he tries to move through the crowd?

5. Why does Zacchaeus climb the tree?

6. What is Jesus' reaction to seeing Zacchaeus up in the tree?

Background: To stay at someone's house made a significant statement that you accepted them. In accepting Zacchaeus' hospitality, Jesus is saying that the tax collector is loved by God.

7. What promises does Zacchaeus make?

8. Jesus says he has come to seek and save the lost. In what ways does the presence of Jesus, through individual followers, continue to save the lost?

9. In what ways does the church, as the Body of Christ, continue to save the lost? Can you think of other ways the church might save the lost?