

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Sunday, October 11, 2020
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sermon on the Mount

In this service for October 11, 2020, we recognize that so much of our lives is spent worrying about what might happen or what has happened. Christ teaches us to stop being anxious, but simply to trust that he knows what is best and will take care of us to the very end.

Prelude

Prelude on *Nettleton*
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Aaron David Miller
Robert A. Hobby

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Gracious God, we come before you to confess our sins. When we have acted out of anger; when we have acted out of selfishness, we have sinned. When our thoughts have been small-minded; when our thoughts have been anxious and fear-filled; when our thoughts have been bitter and self-righteous, we have sinned. When our words have been unfeeling; when our words have been thoughtless; when our words have been admirable, but empty of actions, we have sinned. When we have wasted your gifts and possibilities; when we have not lived out of love, we have sinned. But you are the source of love and life, and we ask your forgiveness and your reforming of our very selves, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Risen Savior. Amen.

Reading from Scripture

Matthew 6: 25-34

NRSV

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Children’s Message

Musical Selection

Recitative and Aria: If With All Your Hearts

Felix Mendelssohn
(from Elijah)

Ye people rend your hearts and not your garments. For your transgressions the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens

through word of God. I therefore say to you, forsake your idols, return to God; for He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil. "If with all your hearts you truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me," thus saith our God. Oh, that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence.

Craig Westbrook Jr., tenor

Reading from Scripture

Philippians 4: 4-9

NRSV

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Sermon

"Don't Worry, Be Blessed"

Rev. Dr. Carol Ann Fleming

Musical Selection

My Heart Ever Faithful

Johann Sebastian Bach

My heart ever faithful, sing praises, be joyful, thy Jesus is near! Away with complaining, faith ever maintaining, my Jesus is here! Sing praises, be joyful, thy Jesus is here!

Craig Westbrook, Jr., tenor

Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Benediction and Blessing

Postlude

Postlude in G major

G. F. Handel

Chancel Flowers

The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Mrs. Kathlyn Matthews, Mr. Clinton B. Matthews,

Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Matthews, Mr. Arthur P. Matthews, II, Mrs. A. Clayton Clark,

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph K. Lynn, Miss Diane Lynn,

Mr. Todd Winton Matthews, Dr. & Mrs. Richard J. Matthews, II, Mr. Richard J. Matthews, III

By The Matthews & Lynn Families

Understandings for Public Worship

Covenant is glad you feel comfortable to join us for public worship today.

We need not tell you these are unusual and apprehensive times we are living in these days. Covenant is working to make this public gathering as safe as possible, which is why we ask the following of you:

*Please wear facemasks while entering and exiting the sanctuary. You are welcome to wear them throughout the worship service, but it is not required.

*Know that the building beyond the sanctuary is closed to us. The only available restroom is in the Ambulatory.

*Your Tithes and Offerings may be contributed at the stationary boxes near each entrance.

*For the time being, we will NOT be standing or singing hymns in the service.

Covenant appreciates that you take all items you brought with you when you depart and prays that this and future experiences of worship, while awkward, may still be meaningful.

*Adult Education classes will meet in the Covenant room at 9:30 A.M. each Sunday morning.

Monday School meets each week at 6:30 P.M. in the Covenant room.

*Godly play (children age 4 through 2nd grade), Kidz Time (3rd—6th grade) and Teen Talk (7th—12th grade) will meet in the Sawtelle Auditorium, Covenant room and Room 8 each Sunday after the Children's Message during worship.