

Littleton United Methodist Church
June 7, 2009
The Feast of the Holy Trinity
Service of Word and Table

Prelude *Holy God We Praise Thy Name* KIMBALL
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the attendance pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *He Is Exalted* Page 2070

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: You in your fields! Come in to the barn, for the voice of the Lord cracks over the grain.

People: **The skies are clapping with dappled hands and tramping upon the ground.**

Pastor: You in your boats! Come in to the shore, for the voice of the Lord breaks over the deep.

People: **The floods are lifting up their voice and pounding upon the strand.**

Pastor: You in your shops! Come down to the cellar, for the voice of the Lord whirls over the rooftops.

People: **The winds are stripping the forests bare and shaking windows in their frames.**

Pastor: You in your fields, your boats and your shops, come into the Temple where all shall cry, "Glory!"

People: **Give glory to God, who thunders above! Give Glory to God, who rumbles below! Give glory to God, from here to beyond.**

+Entrance Hymn #64 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* NICAEA

Prayer of the Day

Wind of God, blowing among the crowds at Pentecost, sweeping across the generations to claim us, may we be born of the Spirit. Speak to us of heavenly things in the midst of our earthly pilgrimage so we may live, not for ourselves, but for the well-being of the whole human family. Send us as messengers of good news and bearers of your peace. AMEN.

The First Reading *Isaiah 6:1-8* Greg Solovieff, Lay Reader

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the

sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 29



Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
Worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, upon many waters.

**The voice of the Lord is powerful,
The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

R

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars,
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

The Lord makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

**The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness,
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord makes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forests bare;
And in his temple all cry "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as Ruler for ever.

**May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!**

R

The Second Reading

Romans 8:12-17

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For

if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Of The Father's Love Begotten

DENNIS

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The windblows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"When Ordinary Words Won't Do"

Rev. Rob Licht

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

God of all worlds, we confess that we are too often people of the flesh, living in slavery to our possessions and our fears. We are so attached to our little corner of the world that we find it difficult to identify with people whose experience is far different

from our own. We do not want to suffer with the homeless, the hungry, the refugees, and the oppressed. We turn away from the suffering of Jesus to pursue temporary advantages. We act like just another human organization, not the body of Christ making a difference in the world. O God, forgive us and reclaim us as your children. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

O God Almighty Father

SYLVESTRA

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Hymn #85

We Believe in One True God

RATISBON

The Great Thanksgiving (Alternate Musical Setting)

Laminated Sheet

The Lord's Prayer

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+Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. As fellow heirs with Christ, grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

+Closing Hymn #61

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

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+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Mazurka

CHOPIN

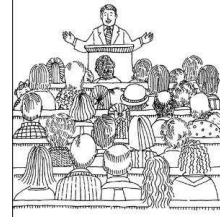
+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Communion rail offerings are designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.*

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex.*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 63



- Today: 8:45 AM Early Casual Service
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
4:00 PM Stained glass window dedication & reception
- Monday: 10:00 AM Beckham Ransom Circle at Helen Burtchell's home
7:00 PM Administrative Council meeting
- Wednesday: Annual Conference through Saturday
8:00 AM Breakfast for the Teachers at Mclver School
Noon - Women in Christian Fellowship at South Street Baptist Church
No Bible study this week
No choir practice this week
- Friday: 9:00 AM Food delivery

Our Gifts



Offerings last week: \$786.00

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
Organist emeritus: Trudi May
Acolyte: Martha Sherman
Greeters: Loretta Woodburn (west)
Frances Howell (east)
Ushers: Jack May (west)
Bob Workman (west)
Sherm Merchant (east)
Nursery: Loretta Woodburn
Julie Johnston
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: TBA
Outreach: Helen Burtchell
Missions: Richard Sherman
Finance: Mike Herman
Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
Kitchen: Marie Fields
Membership: Marj Prescott
Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
Memorials: Matt Johnston
Newsletter: Susan Merchant
Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

If you are interested in knowing more about our mission projects, our church, or becoming a member, please call Pastor Rob at 252 586-5385.

This afternoon at 4:00, everyone is invited to a **dedication reception for the new stained glass window** in the fellowship hall.

The **Beckham Ransom Circle** will meet on Monday at 10:00 AM at Helen Burtchell's house.

The **Administrative Council** will meet on Monday at 7:00 PM in the board room.

Pastor Rob will be away at the **Annual Conference** Wednesday through Saturday.

This Wednesday at 8:00 AM, the Outreach Committee will be serving **Breakfast for the Teachers** at McIver School. If you would like to help with serving and/or providing breakfast foods, please contact Helen Burtchell.

Women in Christian Fellowship will meet at noon on Wednesday at **South Street Baptist Church**. All women are invited. Please bring a dish to pass & a friend. Pat Zeismann will be the speaker.

There will be **no Bible study this Wednesday**.

Coming soon - **Fellowship Supper** at the Merchant home on June 21st.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**