

Littleton United Methodist Church
August 16, 2009
The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost
Service of the Word

Prelude *Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation* PURCELL
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 friendship pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made* Page 658

+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: If you thirst for more than tears, come:

People: **And the Lord our God shall give you drink.**

Pastor: If you hunger for more than ashes, come:

People: **And the Lord our God shall give you bread.**

Pastor: Let us sip together the wine of the Kingdom, and the realm of God shall appear in our midst.

People: **Let us taste together the manna of heaven, and the reign of God shall fill the earth.**

+Entrance Hymn #140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

Prayer of the Day

Bread of heaven, drink of eternal life, whose sacrifice for us calls forth a daring love of neighbor, feed us now and lead us to your Word every day, that our lives may be hymns of thanksgiving to our Creator, leading others to love and serve in your name. AMEN.

The First Reading *1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14* Bob Workman, Lay Reader

Then David rested with his fathers and was buried in the City of David. He had reigned forty years over Israel—seven years in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem. So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his rule was firmly established. Solomon showed his love for the LORD by walking according to the statutes of his father David, except that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places. The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son

to sit on his throne this very day. "Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both riches and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life."

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

Psalter

Psalm 111



Praise the Lord.

**I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who have pleasure in them.

**Full of honor and majesty are the works of the Lord
whose righteousness endures for ever,**
who has caused his wonderful works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.

**The Lord provides food for the faithful
and is ever mindful of his covenant.**

R

The Lord has shown his people the power of his works
by giving them the heritage of the nations.

**The works of the Lord's hands are faithful and just;
the precepts of the Lord are trustworthy;
they are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

The Lord sent redemption to his people
And has commanded his covenant for ever.

Holy and wondrous is God's name!
**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
The praise of the Lord endures for ever.**

R

The Second Reading *Ephesians 5:15-20*

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Anthem *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

TEMPLE

+Gospel Acclamation #2043 *Alleluia*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel *John 6:51-58*

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

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

Sermon *"Scandalous Living"*

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #451 *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that we have lived so comfortably in the abundance of our times that we have made things our gods. We spend our days dreaming of (and working for) possessions that cannot satisfy. The pursuit of riches replaces the quest for faith and faithful relationships. We do not know you, God, and our relationship with others is superficial at best. Redeem us, we pray, from our self-destructive ways and restore us to your covenant community. 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

"Mediation" from Thais

MASSANET

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 #95

OLD 100th

+The Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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+Closing Hymn #2062

The Lily of the Valley

SALVATIONIST

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Shalom to You

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+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

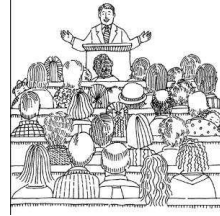
Credo

HAYDN

+The congregation will stand as you are able

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

Our Presence



- Today: 8:45 AM Early Casual Service
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
6:00 PM Fellowship Supper at Ed & Darla Angel's home
- Monday: 1:00 PM Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle in fellowship hall
- Friday: *Newsletter article deadline!*

Our Gifts



The flowers today were given
by Maj & Julie Johnston
in memory of Ed & Heidi Johnston.

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: Susannah Sherman (east)
Maj Johnston (west)
Ushers: Sherman Merchant (west)
need someone (west)
Matt Johnston (east)
Nursery: as needed
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 evening at 6:00, there will be a **Fellowship Supper** at the home of Ed & Darla Angel. Please bring a dish to pass.

The **Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle** will meet on Monday at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

The **deadline for newsletter articles** and photos is Friday. Please email your articles to susanmerchant@gmail.com.

Anna Fishel, the daughter of Rachel Ricks, is raising money for Alzheimer's research by participating in the 2009 **Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk**. If you would like to support her with a donation, there are forms available in each narthex.

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