

Littleton United Methodist Church
September 20, 2009
The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Service of the Word

Prelude *Shout to the Lord* ZSCHECH
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 *Come! Come! Everybody Worship* Page 2271

+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: The Lord sees the end from the beginning.

People: **Wisdom begins with reverence for the Lord.**

Pastor: The Lord judges the immediate by the ultimate.

People: **Wisdom begins with reverence for the Lord.**

Pastor: The Lord weighs the deed by the motive.

People: **Wisdom begins with reverence for the Lord. As we worship in your temple, we pray, O Lord, that you will bless us with a wisdom that the world can neither give nor take away.**

+Entrance Hymn #2004 *Praise the Source of Faith and Learning* HYFRYDOL

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, revealed to us as we welcome children in the name of Jesus, grant us childlike openness and honesty to explore your word. Teach us as Jesus taught the disciples that we may not so much aspire to greatness as to faithfulness, counting service in Christ's name a joyous privilege. AMEN.

The First Reading *Proverbs 31:10-31* Lois Weaver, Lay Reader

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine

linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

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

Psalter

Psalm 1



Blessed are those
who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked;
**or stand in the way of sinners,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;**
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on God's law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees
planted by streams of water
that yield their fruit in season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper

R

The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff which the wind drives away.
**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment;
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous:**
for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

R

The Second Reading

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives.

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

Anthem

In This Very Room

HARRIS

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

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

Sermon

"Welcoming the Child"

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #433

All Who Love and Serve Your City

CHARLESTOWN

+The Apostles' Creed

Page 881

Prayer of Confession

O God, forgive us for our complacent attitudes and self-serving comforts. We do not relish the thought of sacrificing for some larger good we cannot see, for people with whom we find it difficult to identify. We compare ourselves favorably against many who seem less attuned to your purposes than we, forgetting that our true standard is Jesus Christ. We ask you to take away from us all the bitterness, envy, and anger that stands in the way of your reign. May all we ask of you be for the common good

of all 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

Chime Prelude

HERBEK

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

Page 895

+Closing Hymn #530

Are Ye Able

BEACON HILL

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

The Trees of the Field

Page 2279

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Postludium

YOUNG

+The congregation will stand as you are able

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

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 47



- Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
5:30 PM Fellowship Supper & Finance Committee presentation
Charge Conference materials due!
- Monday: 1:00 PM Sewing Circle / Blanket Bee
- Wednesday: 6:00 PM Bible Study
7:30 PM Choir Practice
- Friday: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Littleton A.C.T.S. Food Pantry
- Sunday (9/27) 11:30 AM - Sunday School resumes for the fall

Our Gifts



Offerings 09/06/09:	\$1441.32
Offerings last week:	\$1608.00

The flowers today were given
by Barbara & Lee Reinhardt
in celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

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 (east)
Jill Russo (west)
Ushers: Al Prescott (west)
Bob Workman (west)
Ed Angel (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 there will be a **Fellowship Supper** in the fellowship hall, followed by a presentation by the Finance Committee. Everyone is invited. Please bring a dish to pass.

Remember, Charge Conference materials are due today!

Next Sunday at 11:30 am, our Sunday School classes will resume. Mike Herman and Pastor Rob will be leading our Sunday School this fall with "**The Mayberry Bible Study**", which uses classic episodes from the Andy Griffith Show as modern parables on the teaching of Jesus.

The **Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle** will meet in the fellowship hall tomorrow at 1:00 PM. Please contact Margie Drescher if you have any questions.

The **Littleton ACTS Food Pantry** will be open on Friday from 10 am until noon.

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