

**Littleton United Methodist Church**  
**October 11, 2009**  
**The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Service of the Word**

**Prelude** *Praise The Lord* FRANCK  
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: Come, all who look for God with unseeing eyes. Come, all who listen for God but hear nothing.

People: **Oh, that we knew where to find God! We want to hear and understand God's word.**

Pastor: The word of God is living and active. It pierces and judges and opens us to God's grace.

People: **We cannot hide from God who knows us. God understands our thoughts and intentions.**

Pastor: Leave everything to follow Jesus in this hour. This is the time to embrace new ways.

People: **Have we set the patterns for everyday life. Here we are strengthened for every day's challenges.**

**+Entrance Hymn #400** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

**Prayer of the Day**

**Reigning God, we seek to gather as children of your realm. This is the time and place of your dominion. We recognize that you, not we, prescribe the rules under which life can be rich, full and free. Help us in this hour to embrace the best we know. Open our thoughts and feelings so we may learn better ways. We approach you with boldness, daring to question and make requests, knowing that your grace and mercy exceed our wildest imagining, and your guidance is ever available to those who ask. AMEN.**

**The First Reading** *Job 23:1-9, 16-17* Diana Parham, Lay Reader

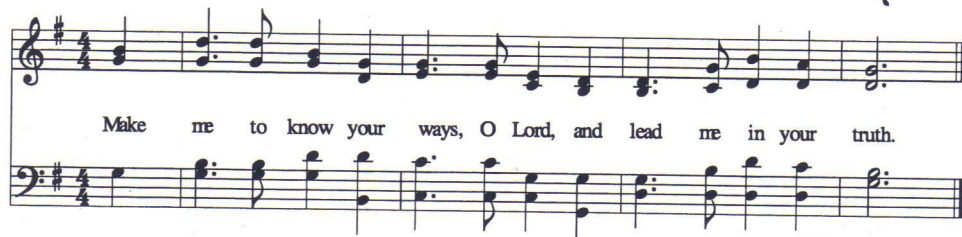
Then Job replied: "Even today my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. If only I knew where to find him; if only I could go to his dwelling! I would state my case before him and fill my

mouth with arguments. I would find out what he would answer me, and consider what he would say. Would he oppose me with great power? No, he would not press charges against me. There an upright man could present his case before him, and I would be delivered forever from my judge. "But if I go to the east, he is not there; if I go to the west, I do not find him. When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me. Yet I am not silenced by the darkness, by the thick darkness that covers my face.

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

**Psalter**

*Psalm 22:1-15*



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
**Why are you so far from helping me, from the words  
of my groaning?**  
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
**and by night, but find no rest.**  
Yet you, the praise of Israel,  
are enthroned in holiness.  
**In you our forebears trusted;**  
**they trusted and you delivered them.**  
To you they cried, and were saved;  
**in you they trusted, and were not disappointed.** **R**

But I am a worm, and not human;  
**scorned by others, and despised by the people.**  
All who see me mock at me,  
**they make mouths at me, they wag their heads;**  
"He committed his cause to the Lord;  
let the Lord deliver him.  
Let the Lord rescue him,  
for the Lord delights in him!"  
**Yet it was you who took me from the womb;**  
**you kept me safe upon my mother's breast.**  
Upon you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me, you have been my God.  
**Do not be far from me,**

**for trouble is near  
and there is none to help.**

**R**

Many bulls encompass me,  
Strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
**They open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.**  
I am poured out like water  
**and all my bones are out of joint;**  
my heart is like wax,  
**it is melted within my breast;**  
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue cleaves to my jaws;  
**you lay me in the dust of death.**

**R**

### **The Second Reading**

*Hebrews 4:12-16*

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

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

### **Anthem**

*Lord, Speak to Me*

HOPSON

### **+Gospel Acclamation #2043**

*Alleluia*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

### **+The Holy Gospel**

*Mark 10:17-31*

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." ' He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.' Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or broth-



## Our Presence



Attendance last week  
Worship service: 49  
Sunday school: 17

Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service  
11:20 AM Sunday school

Monday: 10:00 AM Beckham Ransom Circle at Barb Reinhardt's home  
7:00 PM Administrative Council

Tuesday: 6:00 PM Burgers & Games at Mordecai's

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study  
Noon - Women in Christian Fellowship at Lakeside Lutheran  
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 2:00 PM Warren Hills Birthday Party

Saturday: 10:00 AM UMW meeting



## Our Gifts

Offerings last week: \$12,047.42

## 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: Susan Merchant (east)  
Marj Prescott (west)  
Ushers: Sherm Merchant (west)  
Lee Reinhardt (west)  
George Alston (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.*

We welcome our own Helen Burtchell to the pulpit, this morning. Helen is both a certified lay speaker with the Rocky Mount District of the United Methodist Church and a Candidate for Certified Lay Ministry (CLM). Pastor Rob is away, this morning, officiating a baptism at Christ UMC in High Point, NC.

The **Beckham Ransom Circle** will meet on Monday at 10:00am at Barbara Reinhardt's home. Please bring a sandwich.

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

Don't forget **Burgers and Games at Mordecai's** on Tuesday 5pm till 8pm. Come on down and bring a neighbor or friends. Lots of fun. Join in a game or just sit and talk. If anyone would like a ride call Kaye Herman at 586-2985, Sue Merchant at 586-7866, or Elizabeth Solovieff at 586-2933. (a basket will be passed to cover the meal)

Our fall **Bible Study**, the Companions in Christ series, will meet each Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the board room.

**Women in Christian Fellowship** will meet on Wednesday at noon at Lakeside Lutheran Church. A representative from the John 3:16 Center will be the guest speaker. Please bring a dish to pass and a friend for a time of fellowship and fun. For information contact Helen Burtchell at 586-4682.

From now on, the **new time for Wednesday evening choir practices will be 7:00.**

The **UMW** will meet at 10:00am in the board room.

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