

Littleton United Methodist Church
October 18, 2009
The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Service of the Word

Prelude *Allegro On Foundation* LINKER
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: Oh, that we knew where we could find the Lord!

People: **Then we would lay our case before our God**

Pastor: That we might learn how the Lord would answer us.

People: **And hear what our God would say to us**

Pastor: Will the Lord contend with us in the greatness of divine power?

People: **No! Our God will give heed to our cry.**

+Entrance Hymn #89 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

Prayer of the Day

Glorious God, in the name of Jesus Christ who came not to be served but to serve and who gave life itself for us, we approach your Word with awe. We live in different times but in the same world in which Jesus ate and drank, lived and died. We share the same baptism and have the same opportunity to know your love and serve you. Help us dare to believe and trust and live our days returning your love through the neighbors near and far who need to know your care. AMEN.

The First Reading *Job 38:1-7, 34-41* Elizabeth Solovieff, Lay Reader

Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone- while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? "Can you raise your voice to the clouds and cover yourself with a flood of water? Do you send the lightning bolts on their way? Do they report to you, 'Here we are'? Who endowed the heart with wisdom or gave understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to count the clouds? Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens when the dust becomes hard and the clods of earth stick together? "Do you hunt the prey for the

lioness and satisfy the hunger of the lions when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in a thicket? Who provides food for the raven when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?

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

Psalter

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c



Bless the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord my God, you are very great!

You are clothed with honor and majesty,
and cover yourself with light as with a garment;
**you have stretched out the heavens like a tent,
and have laid the beams of your chambers
on the waters;**

you make the clouds your chariot,
and ride on the wings of the wind;

**you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.**

R

You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it should never be shaken.

**You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.**

At your rebuke they fled;

at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.

They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
to the place which you appointed for them.

**You set a bound which they should not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Praise the Lord

R

The Second Reading*Hebrews 5:1-10*

Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem*For the Beauty of the Earth*

KIRK

+Gospel Acclamation #2043*Alleluia*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel*Mark 10:35-45*

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared." When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon*"Answering Job"*

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #144*This Is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

+The Apostles' Creed

Page 881

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, hear us if you can. Know that many times we feel forsaken and

terrified more than supported and comforted. We cry out and hear no answers. We suffer and find no relief. We are tempted to blame you even though we are the ones who cut off communication. We complain in the midst of plenty and groan over imagined slights. When we feel mocked and scorned and despised, we turn inward with the hurt instead of opening ourselves to your healing touch. Have mercy on us, and help us in our time of need. 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

Pastorale On Foundation

LINKER

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 #2222

The Servant Song

THE SERVANT SONG

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

The Trees of the Field

Page 2279

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Trumpet Tune On Foundation

LINKER

+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: 42
Sunday school: 13



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

Monday: 1:00 PM Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle

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

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
7:00 PM Choir Practice
Newsletter deadline!

Friday: 10:00 AM—noon Littleton ACTS food pantry



Our Gifts

Offerings last week: \$980.05

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: Barbara Reinhardt (east)
Susannah Sherman (west)
Ushers: Richard Sherman (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.

The **Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle** will meet on Monday at 1:00pm in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome!

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

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

The **deadline for newsletter** articles & photos is Wednesday. Please email your submissions to susanmerchant@gmail.com.

The **Littleton ACTS Food Pantry** will be open Friday from 10am until noon. The food pantry is in desperate need of breakfast items (pancake mix, syrup, grits, oatmeal) and canned soups and fruit. Donated items may be placed in the basket in the vestibule.

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