Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 15, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Jesus asked, "But who do you say that I am?"

BAPTISM

For the Baptism of Children and Adults

(Standing)

(A hymn of baptism or faith may be sung.)

In grace God called and chose the people of Israel and established with them a covenant: I will be your God and you will be my people. In that relationship they were to be freed from sin and become a blessing to all. Then God came to us in Jesus Christ and fulfilled that covenant for all people. Through Christ's life, death, and resurrection, God made for us a new covenant of grace.

We come before you with joy, O God, to claim the promises of your covenant.

Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted baptism as the visible means of entry into the new covenant. Baptism is a gift of God. In this sacrament, through grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, we are united with Christ, are cleansed by his saving work, enter into the fellowship of the church, and are called to a life of faith and willing obedience.

Those of you baptized into Christ Jesus, how were you baptized?

Into his death. We were buried with him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glorious power of God Almighty, we too might be raised to live a new life.

(When only adults are baptized, the following sentence is omitted.)

In baptism children also share in the benefits of our Lord's redeeming work through God's grace and the faith of parents, and of the church,

For God's promise is to us and to our children.

(The minister addresses the candidates, parents, and sponsors.)

As you present yourselves before God and this congregation, we call upon you to profess your faith.

Do you believe in God as your Creator and loving heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your Comforter and Sustainer, according to the Holy Scriptures?

I do.

(Candidates, parents, and sponsors may profess their faith by means of the Apostles' Creed, the baptismal profession of the early church. The congregation may be invited to join in the Creed as an affirmation of their own baptism.)

Lord, make us one with all your children as we profess our faith, saying:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Ancient text reads "catholic," which means "universal."

(The minister addresses the candidates, parents, and sponsors.)

Do you in this faith turn away from sin, evil, and selfishness in your thoughts, words, and actions; and do you intend to participate actively in Christ's church, serving God all the days of your life?

I do.

(When only adults are baptized, the following question for parents and sponsors is omitted.)

Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, do you promise to lead your *children* by prayer, instruction, and example toward that time when *they* can by grace confirm *their* faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and commit *themselves* to the life and work of the church?

I do.

(The minister addresses the congregation.)

Do you receive and affirm these children of God as members of this congregation, and accept your obligation to love and nurture them in Christ?

We do.

(Sitting. One of the following hymns is sung.)



TUNE: Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt. From the English Hymnal (1906), by permission of Oxford University Press.

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(Water may be poured into the font or bowl.)

| | gift of water, which you have created and |
|--|--|
| given to us as a sign of life. We recall v | vith gratitude how you led your people from |
| slavery to freedom through the water | s of the sea. We rejoice in the gift of the Holy |
| | the waters of the Jordan, and we praise you |
| for opening to us the way of eternal li | fe through his death and resurrection. Now |
| send your Spirit upon | who receive(s) the water of baptism |
| | ving, growing and active member(s) of your |
| church, rise to new life, be led and no | ourished by your word and sacraments, and |
| share in your eternal blessings. | |

Amen.

(When only adults are baptized, the following is omitted.)

Give to these parents and sponsors your wisdom and strength, that with love and understanding they may guide to Christian maturity the young lives entrusted to their care.

Amen.

(The minister baptizes each candidate with a threefold application of water, saying:)
_______, into the death of Jesus I baptize you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

(Each newly baptized person receives the laying on of hands, symbolizing the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Parents and sponsors of young children join with the minister in the laying on of hands.)

Now through God's grace and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, you have been brought into the covenant; therefore live, yet not you alone, but Christ live in you; and the life which you live now, live by faith in the Son of God, who loved you and gave his life for you.

(The minister pronounces a text of Scripture for the newly baptized adult.)

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace;



(If there are no Affirmations of Baptism through Confirmation, Reaffirmation of Faith, or Transfer of Membership, the following hymn is sung here.)



SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the Lord, "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"

Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is merciful.
The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the Lord

in the land of the living.

James 3:1-12

During the singing of the next hymn, children age 3 and up are welcome to follow Godly Play leaders to continue their worship in CE-106.

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE





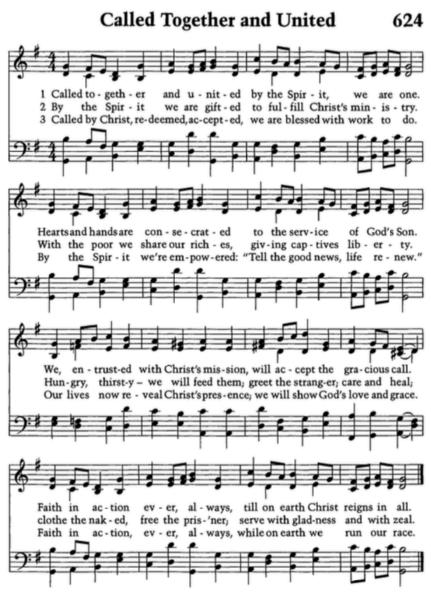
5 Let your heart be tender and your vision clear rouse yourself to action, serve God far and near. Let your heart be broken by another's pain, share your rich resources - give and give again.

TEXT: Bryan Jeffery Leech (1975). ©1975 by The Evangelical Covenant Church TUNE: James Mountain (1876)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 7:24-37Rev. Tobiassen

SERMON - Staying in the Conversation

Hymn 624 - Called Together and UnitedТ. In Babilone



TEXT: W. Thomas Stapleton (1988). ©1988 by W. Thomas Stapleton TUNE: Traditional Dutch (18th cent.)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony. For financial giving online: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/. Click the DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

OFFERTORY INVITATION
ANTHEM - Now Shall the Father Be Praised......Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
arr. Walter
Ehret

Now shall the Father be praised on high. Now shall the sound of our hymn fill the sky. Honor and glory be his evermore, his holy name let all now adore. Mighty in power he reigneth above, master omnipotent, fount of all love. Mercy and justice are his evermore. His holy name let all now adore.

DOXOLOGY
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Introduction to 40 Days of Prayer



TEXT AND TUNE: Daniel Iverson. ©1963 by Birdwing Music (a div. of The Sparrow Corp.).

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GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we walk in the way of the indifferent, who depend on their strength alone. We sit among the scornful, who deny the need for your guidance and power. Our hearts are not satisfied with riches vulnerable to moth and rust and thief, yet we zealously store up those very treasures. Set our minds on things unseen and eternal, that our emptiness within may be filled.

We humbly confess that we fail to welcome the stranger among us. We pass by the neighbor who is hungry and thirsty, naked, sick, and in prison. We sing of your healing power and your unconditional love, but we fail to make our sanctuaries true havens for the suffering and the exiled. Give us the will to be ambassadors for our Savior and faithful stewards of the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Amen.

Without Christ we were strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He is our peace.

We are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, with Christ himself as the cornerstone.

Therefore, let us affirm our faith in the Triune God.

(Standing)

We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens and all that is in them; who established a world that was good; who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it; who is certainty and truth.

We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity and knew our life as child, youth, and adult; who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless; who confronted popular opinion and power; who remained obedient in temptation and suffering; whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.

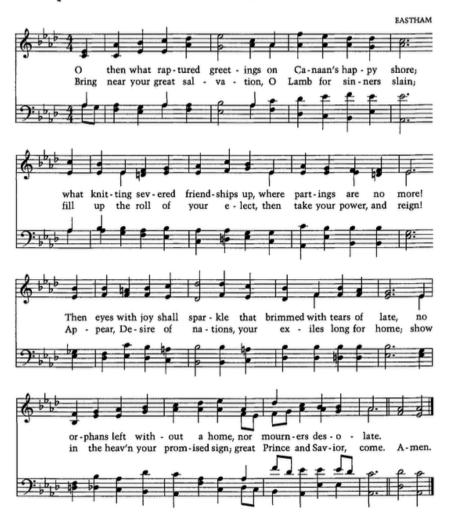
We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate; who does not leave us as orphans; who brings peace and calms the troubled heart; who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles; who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Let us in faith keep our eyes fixed on the promises of God, though we see them and greet them from a distance.

We confess that we are strangers and foreigners on the earth, a people who are seeking our true home.

We desire a better place, that is, a heavenly one. Indeed, God has prepared a city for us.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.



Postlude - In Peace and Joy I Now Depart BWV 616.....

.....T. Mit Fried' und Freud' ich fahr' dahin

J.S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

POSTLUDE TEXT FOR REFLECTION:
He is the heathens' saving light,
And he will gently lead
Those who now know thee not aright,
And in his pastures feed;
While his people's joy he is,
Their sun, their glory, and their bliss.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn 832, The Grace of Our Lord

While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.



We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you. After the service, pick up a beverage in the Lovefeast Serving Room off the Sanctuary, and enjoy fellowship in the Sanctuary or outside.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today in loving memory of *Josephine* and *Horace Vance* by Jody Avery, Buddy Vance, Kate Hix, Betty Lineberger and Randy Vance.

We welcome by the sacrament of infant baptism William Tucker Piner, Jr., son of Tucker Piner and Corinne Avanzino. Sponsors are John Avanzino and Sefanie Manisero.

SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

GODLY PLAY, CE 106 (ages 3 and up),
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (in person and via zoom), 11:15
a.m.

Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom

https://bit.ly/42JohxN

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal Feasting on the Word, CE-101 and Zoom

https://bit.ly/3qMoZwZ

CHILDREN & YOUTH POWER HOUR, 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

CALENDAR

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105

10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship/Baptism

11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room

11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room & Zoom

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal

Feasting on The Word, CE 101 and Zoom

"Power Hour," Children and Youth, CE Building

Monday - 4:00 p.m. - Nominating Committee, Parlor

5:30 p.m. - Youth Ministry Team, CE-101

Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. - Men of the Church Prayer Group, Club

Room 3:00 p.m. - Finance Committee, RB-225

4:30 p.m. - Home Missions Team, Club Room

6:30 p.m. - Beginner Band Class, Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. - Salem Congregational Chorale Band, Fellowship

Hall Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

6:45 p.m. - Program, Fellowship Hall, Community Engagement

Team Thursday - 11:30 a.m. - Men of the Church, Club Room

5:00 p.m. - Children's Ministry Team, CE-101

5:30 p.m. - Gregor BellChoir rehearsal

6:30 p.m. - Choir

7:30 p.m. - Men's Chorus

Next Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105

10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship

10:20 a.m. - Godly Play, CE-106

11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room

11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal

Feasting on The Word, CE-101 and Zoom

"Power Hour," Children and Youth, CE Building

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Stuff Sale is coming! We need you to make this World Mission fundraiser happen! The sale will be **Saturday, October 5, 8:00 a.m. - Noon**, in the Fellowship Hall. You can help by clearing out, downsizing, and sharing your treasures! Bring household items, small furniture items, lamps, pictures and paintings, MORAVIAN ITEMS (these sell really well), toys, holiday items. **PLEASE – NO beds, heavy furniture, clothes, books**.

Beginning NOW, you may bring your contributions. Please call Cynthia at the church and she will arrange for a staff member to help when you deliver. Your help is also welcome on Thursday and Friday, October 3 and 4, when we will be arranging and pricing items. Call Mallie Graham (336-924-9409) if you have time to share – from one hour to half a day! World Mission needs are great. We thank you for your support.

All are invited to an **Organ Concert Tribute to Margaret V. Sandresky**, American Composer, Organist, and Educator. Friday, September 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.; Home Moravian Church sanctuary, 529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC. Performers include Susan Bates, Mary Lou Kapp Peeples, Susan Keck Foster, and Susan Orgain. A variety of music, both sacred and secular, from Ms. Sandresky's extensive catalog, performed in the sanctuary on the Aeolian Skinner organ. Free concert; donations accepted.

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor* Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor* Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Jonathan Williams, *Organist* Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation* 529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-722-6171 home1771@homemoravian.org www.homemoravian.org (10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)