
 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude *Grand Processional*

Dale Wood

Call to Worship

One: A tiny seed that burgeons into a majestic tree with branches that offer shelter and shade; or yeast, hidden within a bushel of flour, that transforms the dough in due time:

All: this is what the kingdom of heaven is like.

One: We gather 'round Jesus -- our teacher and Lord -- seeking wisdom and understanding, longing for a foretaste of the kingdom of heaven.

All: Let anyone with ears to hear listen!

Hymn *To God Be the Glory*

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
 So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
 and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
 and give him the glory: great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
 and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
 But purer and higher and greater will be
 our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
 and give him the glory: great things he has done!

Prayer of Confession

God, your kingdom confounds us. You challenge our assumptions about right living and stretch our understanding of what holds worth. You reverse our expectations and reorder our priorities until they reflect your vision of well-being for all. Your kingdom surprises us with grace upon grace. But we cling to the values of this world, which privilege products over people, success over service, and competition for resources over the common good. Open us to new ways of living that embody your desire for creation and contribute to a commonwealth marked by justice and joy. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace of Christ

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Matthew 13:31-33

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of

shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

Homily “Texas Parables”

Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair

Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit we trust in the one Triune God, the holy one of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Offering *A Jubilant Song*

Allen Pote

Marilyn Wilkins, soprano

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song, Sing to the Lord a jubilant song,
Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad, let the heavens be filled with joy,
And a jubilant song.

Sing alleluia to the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.
Tell of His salvation from day to day, shout His marv'ulous works among the people,
For great is the lord and greatly to be praised!

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song, Sing to the Lord a jubilant song,
Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad, let the heavens be filled with joy,
And a jubilant song.

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were made, or the land and the sea were born,
From age to age you are God, and we pray from the coming of His kingdom.
We shall rejoice, we shall be glad all the days of our lives.

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song, Sing to the Lord a jubilant song,
Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad, let the heavens be filled with joy,
And a jubilant song.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Postlude *Postlude on Old Hundredth*

Fred Bock



Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Health concerns: Louis McCaleb; Jimmy Gilchrest; Donna Morrison; Bill McPhail; Jane Christopher; Dee Lowery & Joannie King; Harvey Coe (Brett Coe's father); Imelda Carrillo and her daughter, Monica, and granddaughter, Lauren; Thelma Jean's daughter-in-law Nancy, and granddaughter Katie and her husband and two-year-old son, Logan; Baywood Crossing residents and staff; Ronny Carter (Betty Pendleton's cousin); Bob Pesl; Danny and Melba Slaven.

Emergency Contact for each member needed for our church records.

We are updating our records and want to have an emergency contact for everyone. Please contact the church at 281-991-8700 (*leave a message*) or email at office@fpcpasadena.org with your designated Emergency Contact. All information will be kept confidential. Thanks!

FPC Ministries and Groups Zoom Meetings - To arrange a meeting with your ministry or group, contact Barbara at office@fpcpasadena to schedule a Zoom videoconference.