

7 September 2008

Opening Hymn – All Are Welcome (Gather 753)

Year A 17th Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 18

THE WORD OF GOD

TAKE-HOME INSERT

(17th Sunday after Pentecost IRCL – Proper 18)

Collect

Presider: The Lord is with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray together:

Sovereign God,

In Jesus of Nazareth you are manifest as

Holy Love:

In Love, we realize the gracious beauty of our soul –

There is no place for shame;

In Love, we are bound by an ocean of mercy –

None are judged as outcasts;

In Love, we know the Truth that sets us free –

We resolve conflict with tenacious tenderness;

May Holy Love so infuse our hearts

That our minds see your Presence in all things. Amen.

A period of silence for reflection follows each lesson and the sermon. Allow your attention to drop in and down and rest upon your breath. When distractions arise – such as thoughts and sounds and smells – simply notice and return to the breath.

Hebrew Scriptures

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

“Now you, mere mortal I make you the sentinel for the House of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you must give my warning. If I say to evildoers, ‘You will surely die; and you do not warn them to turn from their ways, the evildoers will die because of their sin, but I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn evildoers to turn from their sin, they will die for their sins, but you will have saved your life. Now then, mere mortal say to the House of Israel ‘You’ve been saying things like this, complaining we are burdened by our sins and our offenses, and we waste away because of them. How can we survive?’ Say to them, ‘As I live, says Sovereign YHWH, I take no pleasure in the death of sinners – I prefer that they turn from their ways and live. Turn back! Turn back from your evil ways! Why should you die, House of Israel?’”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119: Happy Are Those Who Follow (Rory Cooney)

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Christian Scriptures

The Epistle

Romans 13:8-14

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Community at Rome.
Owe no debt to anyone – except the debt that binds us to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you have fulfilled the Law. The commandments – no committing adultery, no killing, no stealing, no coveting, and all the others – are all summed up in this one: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love never wrongs anyone – hence love is the fulfillment of the Law. Besides, you know the time in which we are living. It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep, for our salvation is closer than when we first accepted the faith. The night is far spent; the day draws near. So let us cast off deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us live honorably as in daylight, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual excess and lust, not in quarreling and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with our Savior Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the night.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn (see hymn board)

We stand as able.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Assembly: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“If your sister or brother should commit some wrong against you, go and point out the error, but keep it between the two of you. If she or he listens to you, you have won a loved one back; if not try again, but take one or two others with you, so that every case may stand on the word of two or three witnesses. If your sister or brother refuses to listen to them, refer the matter to the church. If she or he ignores even the church, then treat that sister or brother as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. The truth is, whatever you declare bound on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you declare loosed on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again I tell you, if two of you on earth join in agreement to pray for anything whatsoever, it will be granted you by my Abba God in heaven. Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst.”

Deacon: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

The readings are taken from *The Inclusive Hebrew Scriptures Vol. I, II, and III* and *The Inclusive New Testament* with © permission from: Priests for Equality/Quixote Center, P.O. Box 5206 Hyattsville, MD 20782 301-699-0042. Collect is by Kevin G. Thew Forrester.

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WELCOME to all visitors and guests this morning! After the service, you are invited to the Great Room on the lower level (accessible by stairs or elevator) for coffee and conversation.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY AND WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Presider:	Rise Thew Forrester
Preacher:	Rise Thew Forrester
Deacon:	Coralie Hambleton
Organist:	Jan Brodersen
First Reader:	Vince Reed
Second Reader:	Bob Railey
Prayers of the People:	Bob Railey
Chalice Bearers:	
Ushers:	
Server:	Dan Platt
Altar Guild:	Kate Kenney and Jean Contois
Coffee Hour Hosts:	Pat Micklow and Judd Spray, Bob and Nancy Railey
Evening Prayer Officiant:	Bob Railey
Eucharistic Visitors:	MGH: Marcia Franz; Valente Facility for Betsy Barnwell and Robina Payant: Bob and Nancy Railey

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

September Food Bank Needs: Cans of green beans, corn and peas

Tuesday, 9 th	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
	Executive Committee	4:00 pm
	Altar Guild	7:00 pm
Wednesday, 10 th	Evening Prayer	5:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday, 11 th	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
	Scottish Folk Dancing	7:00 pm
Saturday, 13 th	Diocesan Council	10:00 am
Sunday, 14 th	Holy Eucharist: 18 Pentecost	10:30 am
	Ministry Support Team Meeting	After service

Quarterly Liturgical Sign-Up/Availability List Posted

The Fall Quarter list (October - December) and rosters for the various activities are posted on the "sign-up bulletin board" in the chapel hallway through September 14. Completed Fall Quarter schedules will be distributed beginning September 21. If there are periods when you should not be scheduled, please indicate that in the appropriate spaces of the schedule ("Away") or roster ("Comments"). You may use the appropriate roster to increase or decrease your involvement in any of these activities. I would especially like more people to serve as coffee hour hosts. - Bob Railey

Youth Ministry Announcements

Youth Ministry programming will resume on September 14th. Youth of all ages are invited to gather in the chapel after the Collect to participate in lessons, music, and activities for youth. Leaders will be working in teams and will generally assist for one month at a time. We welcome any adults interested in joining with this important ministry.

Plans are in the works for Youth 6th-12th graders to gather for fellowship on the 4th Friday of every month, beginning in September. More details will be forthcoming.

Youth Ministry meetings will take place on the 4th Sunday of every month at 9:30 am. All are invited to attend as we welcome your ideas and input.

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Step UP for Diabetes

A fundraising walk to help support the U.P. Diabetes Outreach Network's services and programs will be held on Saturday, September 13th at Lower Harbor Park in Marquette. Registration begins at 8:30 am with the walk beginning at 9:00 am. Prize drawing and awards will take place at 10:30 am.

Walkers making a minimum \$20.00 donation will receive a Step UP t-shirt and the chance to win great prizes. For more information contact the U.P. Diabetes Outreach Network at 906-228-9203.

Ladies Luncheon

The Ladies Luncheon will be held at the Page Conference Center in Little Lake on Friday, September 19th at 11:30 am. It will be a catered lunch with a cost of \$10.00. If you are interested in carpooling, please meet at St. Paul's at 10:50 am. Please RSVP to Barb Carpenter by noon on Wednesday the 17th at 226-7571.

Exploring the Relationship between God, Liturgy and Ministry

Ministry Support Team Formation – *Everyone is welcome to attend and participate*

Third Tuesdays (September thru April)

Begins *Tuesday, Sept. 16th* from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the Chapel

Facilitated by Kevin Thew Forrester

We tend to understand Mutual Ministry as pertaining to changing the systems of ministry and leadership in the church. But how we minister flows from how we pray, and how we pray flows from our awareness of the One in whose image we are created and whose very likeness we are asked to become.

Over the next 8 months, we will draw upon the scriptures, traditions, liturgies, iconography, music, poetry, movement, and the Enneagram, to help us explore what it might mean for worship and ministry to flow from an awareness of being at one with God, each other and creation. Several resources will be used including the following two books by Cynthia Bourgeault, "*The Wisdom Way of Knowing: Reclaiming an Ancient Tradition to Awaken the Heart*", and "*The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind – a New Perspective on Christ and His Message*". Both books can be found at Amazon.com or locally at Snowbound Books on Third Street. If you are interested in being included in a group order for a discount at Snowbound, please contact Kathy in the church office at 226-2912 or email kathylenten201@uplogon.com by September 10th.

HUNGER WALK ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Hunger Walk envelopes were delivered to St. Paul's this past week. Walkers may pick up an envelope from Bob Railey, Al Raymond, or Larry Shell. Official date/place of the walk is Saturday, September 27 at Al Quaal Recreation Area in Ishpeming (registration at Bethany Lutheran Church, 2 blocks from Al Quaal). See the insert page of this month's Messenger for details. You may do your walk at any time and place; for those who plan to walk in Ishpeming, there is a car-pool sheet posted on the sign-up bulletin board in the chapel hallway. If you or your family or your parish organization are not walking, please support our efforts by pledging donations to one or more of St. Paul's walkers.

The Marquette Choral Society **rehearsals** begin for:

"A Wreath of Carols"

on **Monday, September 8, 2008 7-9:30 pm**

in the Choral Room, Thomas Fine Arts Bldg, NMU campus

Directed by Dr. Floyd Slotterback

Singers may join any time during the first three rehearsals. Members pay \$20 which includes \$5 membership and new music: Alfred Burt carols plus carols arranged by the legendary team of Robert Shaw and Alice Parker. For more information: 906-227-2308 or fslotter@nmu.edu

Concerts will be at St. Peter Cathedral on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon, December 6 and 7

Year A 17th Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 18