

REV. ALBERT RHODES STUART

NORTH LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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WORSHIP PLAN

DATE: Sun., 27 September 2020 SEASON: 17th Sunday after Pentecost

✠ ✠ ✠ PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠ ✠

PRELUDE:

JOYS, CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- No singing of the hymns; Josh & Rusty will sing them.
- Today:
 - Next Sunday — 9:45 AM Kitchen Class
 - — 11 AM — Worship
- This Week:
 - Thurs @ 11 AM & 6³⁰ PM — Circle Meetings
 - Next Sunday — 9:45 AM Teacher Appreciation & Sunday school Promotion. Return to Classes
 - Joy Box Collection & Dedication
 - Communion / Deacons' Offering
- The Church Website has been and is being updated. Remember to check: <http://northlibertypc.org>
- The Worship Service videos will be uploaded to Pastor Rusty's YouTube channel (Albert Stuart) and to the Church's channel (North Liberty). If you don't know how to access the YouTube channels, not to worry, I will be posting the links to the FaceBook group.
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TIME OF MEDITATION:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: Glory to the Father in Whom all things began!

People: Glory to the Son Who became the Son of Man!

Pastor: Glory to the Spirit Who inspires and renews, the Lord our God forever! But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

Women: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; You have increased its joy; they rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

Men: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His

shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Pastor: Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

Unison: The zeal of the LORD of Hosts will do this.

(Isaiah 9:1 - 3 & 6 - 10)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Pastor: O Lord of Life and King of the Universe: We appeal to You as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ — the Father of glory — that through Him You would bestow upon us the Holy Spirit of wisdom and revelation that we might have true knowledge of Him. And, that having the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may know that True Hope hope to which He calls us.

As we seek You, we beg Your Triune presence among us you, the immeasurable greatness of Your power toward us who believe, according to the working of Your great might that You worked in Christ when You raised Him from the dead and seated Him at Your right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, in this age and in the one to come. In our worship, we seek always to know You, Who put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all the church, His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Lord, All this we seek by that eternal name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN:

“Be Thou My Vision”

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CALL TO CONFESSION:

Pastor: Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

[Hebrews 4:12-16]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Unison: Almighty God, creator of all, You marvelously made us in Your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged Your likeness by rejecting Your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of Your Son; remake us and lead us by Your Spirit the Comforter and Advocate. We ask this through Jesus Christ our merciful High Priest. Amen. [Adapted from *Our Modern Services*; the Anglican Church of Kenya; pg 35.]

MOMENT OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION:

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

Pastor: Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ! And yet, Christ died for us; He rose for us; He reigns in power for us; and He prays for us. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, that one is a new creation. The old life is Gone and a new life has begun. Let us give glory to God for the forgiveness He has given us through His Son. [1 Tim. 1:15 & 1 Pet. 2:25]

* GLORIA PATRI:

✠ ✠ ✠ HEARING THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠ ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

Almighty God, As we open ourselves to the reading and exposition of Your Word this day, we ask that you would calm and center our hearts, minds, and spirits. Remove from us the blinds upon our eyes, the stoppers within our ears, the daily diversions and discords that fog our minds and poison our souls and divert us from our serious attendance to the deep things of the Gospel and the simple. Touch us in such a way, we pray, Lord, that we daily mourn and grieve our sin and see anew the Image of God You have placed within us and each other, that we may spread Your Word and do the work You assign to us. We ask in the name and for the sake of Your only-begotten Son, Christ Jesus. Amen.

CHILDRENS' MESSAGE:

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Matthew 1:1 - 25

¹ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷ and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, ⁸ and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ⁹ and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹⁰ and Hezekiah

the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah,¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

¹² And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,¹³ and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor,¹⁴ and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud,¹⁵ and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob,¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us).²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Philippians 2:1 - 11

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Have this mind

among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

SERMON: "Who Is God the Son &
Who Are We In Him?"
The Rev. Albert Rhodes Stuart

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER:

✠ ✠ ✠ RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD ✠ ✠ ✠

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

HYMN: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" #564

THE OFFERING:

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

* THE DOXOLOGY:

HYMN: "Blessed Assurance" # 572

* ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE:

(Jude 24-25)

Pastor: Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of His glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE:

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 29 - 32:

Q29] Why is the Son of God called "Jesus," meaning "savior"?

A29] Because He saves us from our sins. Salvation cannot be found in anyone else; it is futile to look for any salvation elsewhere.

Q30] Do those who look for their salvation and security in saints, in themselves, or elsewhere really believe in the only savior Jesus?

A30] No. Although they boast of being His, by their deeds they deny the only savior and deliverer, Jesus.

Either Jesus is not a perfect savior, or those who in true faith accept this savior have in Him all they need for their salvation.

Q31] Why is He called "Christ," meaning "anointed"?

A31] Because He has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our Chief Prophet and Teacher Who perfectly reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God for our deliverance; Our only High Priest Who has set us free by the one sacrifice of His body, and Who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king Who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and Who guards us and keeps us in the freedom He has won for us.

Q32] But why are you called a Christian?

A32] Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in His anointing. I am anointed to confess His name, to present myself to Him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity.



Jesus Christ Is Lord,
to the glory of God
the Father