

REV. ALBERT RHODES STUART

NORTH LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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WORSHIP PLAN

DATE: Sun., 18 October 2020 SEASON: 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE:

JOYS, CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Today:
 - 10:⁰⁰ AM — Sunday School. No Opening Exercises.
 - 11:⁰⁰ AM — Worship for the Lord's Day
 - 6:⁰⁰ PM — Christian Endeavor
- This Week:
 - Thurs @ 4 PM — Christian Ed. mtg
 - Thurs @ 7 PM — Resume Choir Practice
- The Church Website has been and is being updated. Remember to check: <http://northlibertypc.org>
- The Worship Service videos are being loaded weekly to Pastor Rusty's YouTube channel (Albert Stuart), the Church's channel (North Liberty) and to the Church website (<http://www.northlibertypc.org>) Under the "Worship" tab at the top.
- Seeking ideas for early Christmas Presents? Please consider giving \$10 Walmart gift cards to Root International for their Mexico & Navajo Missions, or \$10 Giant Eagle Cards to Jeremiah's Place Care Center in Pittsburgh for their needs. If you are willing and interested, please get these cards to Sue Black by the end of October.
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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! The LORD says to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool." The LORD sends out from Zion Your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of Your foes.

People: Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day You lead Your forces on the holy mountains. From the womb of the morning, like dew, Your youth will come to You.

Unison: The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” The LORD is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings on the day of His wrath. (Psalm 110:1 - 5)

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 to which He calls us.

As we seek You, we beg Your Triune presence among us, the immeasurable greatness of Your power toward us who believe, according to the working of Your great might that You accomplished 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:

“To God Be the Glory”

56

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: O Most Merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; You who pardons all people who honestly, sincerely and truly repent from their sins and evils and turn to You; we humbly and earnestly confess to You our many sins and shortcomings and implore You to shine on us the great light of Your eternal mercy. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves; we have neither done justice and loved mercy, nor walked humbly with You, Almighty God.

Have mercy on us, O God, and according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, we solemnly appeal to you to blot out our iniquities. Create in us clean hearts and renew right spirits within us. Lord, do not cast us away from Your presence or take away Your Holy Spirit from us. Rather, we beg You to restore to us the joy of Your salvation and give us the free desire to love and serve You in thanksgiving and gratitude. Amen.

[Adapted from the Book of Common Worship, 1946]

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:

Luke 1:26 - 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, ³³and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also

conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

Hebrews 4:12 - 5:10

^{4:12} For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account.

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

^{5:1} For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³ Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴ And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵ So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶ as He says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek.”

^{7:2} In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him Who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence.

⁸ Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, ¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

SERMON:

“A Great High Priest:
Alike Us in All Things Except Sin”
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: “The Old Rugged Cross” # 327

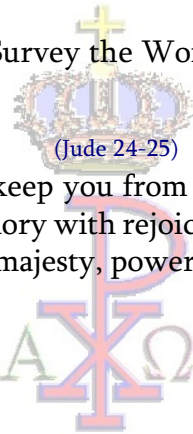
THE OFFERING OF GIFTS & TITHES

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

* THE DOXOLOGY:

HYMN: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” # 324

* ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE:



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:

Jesus Christ Is Lord
to the glory of God

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM QUESTION FOR LORD’S DAY 14:

- Q35] What does it mean that He “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?
- A35] That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to Himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might become David's true descendant, like His brothers in every way except for sin.
- Q36] How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?
- A36] He is our mediator, and with His innocence and perfect holiness He removes from God's sight my sin, mine since I was conceived.