

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

July 28, 2024

Acts 8:26-40 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 119 in the pew Bible.]

Entering God's Presence

Sermon

"Why Practical Optimism?"

The Rev. Vance Polley

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 664

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

*Expressing Our Joy

Leader: Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.

People: Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Leader: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

People: Even as we hope in you.

(Psalm 33)

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

Eternal God, in whom I live and move and have my being, your face is hidden from me by my sins, and I forget your mercy in the blindness of my heart. Cleanse me from all my offenses, and deliver me from proud thoughts and vain desires. With lowliness and meekness may I draw near to you, confessing my faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you my refuge and strength. (Note the personal tense.)

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness

*Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

Deuteronomy 16:1-8 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 166 in the pew Bible.]

Musical Meditation

*Affirmation of Faith and *Gloria Patri* (No. 581)

Christ Jesus though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death—even death on a Cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen. (Phil. 2:5-11)

Ministry of Prayer [Text prayer requests to: (843) 437-4239]

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*At the Presentation

Doxology (No. 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication, concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn 702

Christ Be Beside Me

BUNESSAN

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

*Going Out into the World

*Those that are able, please stand.