

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER.....Pastor and Congregation

CALL TO WORSHIPPastor and Congregation

**O Lord, open our eyes that we may see the need of others,
open our ears that we may hear their cries,
open our hearts so they need not be without support;
let us not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong,
nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.
Use us to bring love and hope and faith where it is needed;
open our eyes and our ears that we may, this day,
be able to do some work of peace for you. Amen**

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP ... "Open Our Eyes, Lord" ...p. 499.....Congregation

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ... *Jeremiah 18:18-19:1* Reggie Jackson

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. ¹⁹ Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?" ("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?") ²⁰ "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." ²¹ For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. ²² Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored? O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

HYMN ... "Come, All Christians, Be Committed" ...vs. 1, 3 and 4 604

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE..... Brandi Powers

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come before our God, who is full of compassion, to ask forgiveness and mercy ...

When in our excesses we consume more than our share while others go with basic needs unmet;

When we are blinded by our affluence and fail to reach out in care and concern;

When we are overwhelmed by desires to acquire and consume more than we need;

When possessions cloud our view of You and Your gracious love;

Forgive us, merciful God.

Hear the Good News, in the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

MORNING PRAYER

OFFERTORY HYMN... "Because I Have Been Given Much"605

OFFERTORY PRAYER Usher

OFFERTORY

GOSPEL LESSON ...*Luke 16:1-13*..... Molly Abbott

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON.....Rev. Josh Powers

CLOSING HYMN ... "Let Your Heart Be Broken" ... vs. 1, 3 and 4.....611

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY

6:30 p.m. Recreation

MONDAY

7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m. ... Supper ... Team 2..... 6:30...Business Meeting

6:45 p.m. Bible Study and Youth and Children's programs

THURSDAY ... JOY Group Outing

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. **BREAKFAST**

