

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost October 17, 2021

Prelude

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are Called to Worship – God has called us here to bring our worship and praise, to grow in our faith, to be together as one, to prepare ourselves for a life of servanthood. Come, let us worship.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.

A Time of Prayer— Holy God, meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence, that we may risk sharing Jesus' cup and his baptism so the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all. Shelter us with your light, and clothe us with your heavenly garments. Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another on this daring adventure...+

The Lord's Prayer (unison)—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.

- 32 They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.'
- 35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' ³⁶And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' ³⁷And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' ³⁸But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' ³⁹They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'
- 41 When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

MeditationA Life of Service

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation— Jesus came not to be served but to serve. Let us follow this example and share our gifts so that we may also experience the joys and challenges of serving.+

October Benevolence—Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. In 2021, Neighbors in Need "Unfailing Love" offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities. One-third of NIN

funds support the <u>Council for American Indian Ministry</u> (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at www.zionuccindy.net/donate

Doxology

We Give Thanks—God of Glory, all creation is the work of your hands. From you, we receive all that we need and more. To you, we give not only these gifts, but our very selves and all that we are. Use these gifts, even as you use us, that your world might be blessed through our service. Amen.`

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service, #575 (v. 1 & 4)

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing—Consider the ravens. Notice the lilies. Awaken your hearts to what God is doing among us, and go forth this day to serve and enrich the world around you. Amen.

Postlude

A Trumpet Dialogue

⁺UCC Worship Ways; ~Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021 (p. 232). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition. `Beu, B. J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2018: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year. Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.