

21st Sunday After Pentecost**Prelude***Bercesuse*

Gathering— With faith the size of a mustard seed, God can do amazing things. With gratitude and praise, we gather to worship our God from whom all blessings flow. With persistent prayers, we turn to our just God in trust and hope. Today, we hear the story of Zacchaeus, who dared to go out on a limb, to draw nearer to Christ. When we need to climb a tree to look for help, Christ proclaims, “I am coming to your house today.” When we feel lost, and have nowhere to turn, Christ assures us, “I am coming to your house today.” Christ is coming. Christ is with us even now. Worship the Lord with joy and praise.~

A Time of Prayer— Welcome us, loving Jesus, as we now welcome you into our hearts, minds, and worship. Let us transform and be transformed by each other so that we might perceive your presence among us ever more clearly.+

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.

Bell Choir**We Hear God's Word***Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV)*

19He (*that is Jesus*) entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.’ ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble

and said, ‘He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.’⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’⁹ Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.’¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

Meditation

Out on a Limb

Hymn

Be Thou My Vision, #502

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—When the crowds around Zacchaeus blocked his view of Jesus, he anticipated where Jesus would be and staked space in the sycamore tree to increase his ability to see. His foresight became a blessing as Jesus saw Zacchaeus and invited him down from the tree. Likewise, let us look ahead to where we can meet and welcome Jesus into our many ministries by generously sharing our various gifts today.+

October Benevolence—Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM)

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

Doxology

We Give Thanks—Thank you for choosing to receive these gifts that we now share with you, gracious God. Bless each offering – including our very selves – and let every single one be given in service to you. Amen.+

Hymn

O, How I Love Jesus, #109

Benediction— Bless you in your coming and going. Bless you in your welcoming and being invited. Bless you in your doing and being. Bless you in your now and forever. Amen.+

Postlude

Intermezzo

Worship Notes: ~ Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022 (pp. 245-246). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition. +UCC Worship Ways.