

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, November 15, 2020 – 10:00 AM

Congregational responses are in **bold** type.

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

PRAISE

Call to Worship (unison)

Come, Lord Jesus. Come into our midst and bless us with your presence. Come into our midst and receive our praises. Come into our midst and awaken our devotion to serve you. Come into our midst and quicken our hope that you will come again and take us to yourself. Come into our midst, and let us come to you.

Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have been more willing to trust ourselves than we have been to rely upon you. We seek to be our own mentors in discerning truth, we seek to be our own masters in defining justice, we seek to be our own managers in determining the best way to be faithful to you. Forgive us for setting our own standards, rather than listening to yours. Forgive us for trying to decide our own destiny, rather than recognizing yours. And in your mercy, set us free to trust you, to hear you, to follow you, and to serve you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus, we have been gifted with the amazing truth of God's forgiveness. We are a graced and beloved people, sent into the world with a mission for Christ. Thanks be to God!

Hymn: *God is Here!* #70, vs 1 & 4

1 God is here! As we your people,
meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

4 Sovereign God, of earth and heaven,
in an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's celebration,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25.14-30

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way,

the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?' ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Message *"Multiplied Talents"* Pastor Don Francois

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE PREPARE TO GO TO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn: *Take My Life, and Let it Be* #448, vs. 1, 2 & 3

1 Take my life, God, let it be
consecrated faithfully.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my spirit, let it move
at the impulse of your love.
Take my intellect and use
all its powers as you choose.

3 Take my will; your will be done!
Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace
make of it your dwelling place.

Benediction

Postlude