

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Piedmonte
Music Director – Gregory Fraser
* Congregation will stand

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE with SILENT PRAYERS: *Grig Lyric Piece*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - During Covid, masks are required. There will be no singing other than by the minister and organist. We are to stand during designated hymns out of worship and honor. Hymn lyrics are provided as inserts so you may participate spiritually. We do not touch hymnals, friendship pads, Bibles, or offering plates. Offering is to be placed in plate when exiting. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping your congregation safe.

INTROIT: "We Are Standing on Holy Ground" (*See Insert to follow along*)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader/**People**)

(L) Sing a song of thanksgiving.

(P) Declare God's wondrous deeds.

(L) For the Lord dwells among the people;

(P) the glory of God abides with us.

*OPENING PRAYER

(L) Let us pray

(P) Almighty God, in the self-giving love of Christ you have revealed the path of salvation; give us courage to deny our selfish desire and bear the cross of discipleship, that we may live as those who have no fear of death and receive the joy of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN: "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" (*See Insert*)

CALL TO CONFESSION

(L) Jesus Christ overcame evil with good so that all people might be saved from sin. Let us then confess our need for grace, confident of God's forgiveness. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(P) God of mercy, we confess that, like the disciples, we set our minds not on divine things but on human things. Doubting your loving care, we grab for more than we need. Doubting your loving purposes, we shrink from living as your followers. Doubting your loving plan, we become stumbling blocks for ourselves and for others. Forgive us that we may gain new life in you, for it is in Jesus forgiving name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(L) Jesus took up his cross for our salvation. In return for our old life of sin, he promises a new life of grace.

Friends, know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

(P) Thanks be to God! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

(L) The peace of Christ be with you.

(P) And also with you.

*WORDS & GESTURES OF PEACE: (*turn to extend signs of peace to neighbors from a distance*)

*SONG OF PRAISE: "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" (**See Insert**)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Healthy Competition"

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

SHARING OF PRAYERS for JOYS and CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

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.

THE PROCLAIMING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(L) Let us pray

(P) Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove, open our ears to the truth of your word, that the testimony of Christ may be strengthened among us and the glad news of deliverance revealed. Amen.

READING OF THE WORD

Epistle: Romans 12:9-18

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-26

SERMON: "Nagging Questions"

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

*HYMN: "Lift High the Cross" (**See Insert**)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: "*The Apostles' Creed*" (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE RESPONDING

OFFERTORY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*SONG OF DEDICATION: (**Doxology**) "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

THE SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN: "We are One in the Spirit (They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love)" (**See Insert**)

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*BPC THEME SONG: Go now in peace . . .

POSTLUDE: Liszt *Sonetto di Petrarca* 123

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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TODAY, August 30, 2020

13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00am 11:00am	CONTEMPORARY Worship Service – Taylor Hall TRADITIONAL Worship Service – Sanctuary – Families and kids are encouraged to stay the entire time
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THIS WEEK: August 31 – September 5, 2020

Tuesday, September 1 Wednesday, Sept 2 Friday, September 4	Pastor Office Hours 3-5pm; Youth Group (ages 8-11) 5-6pm; Session 6pm Pastor Office Hours 1-3pm; Youth Group (ages 12 & up) 6-7pm Pastor Office Hours 10am – Noon; QUEEN ESTHER Live Streaming 7pm
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Monday, September 7 Friday – September 11 Sunday, September 13	Labor Day – Church Office Closed S'More Time w/Jesus – Honoring Heroes 6pm COMBINED worship service & Blessing of the Backpacks 11am – Berlin Worcester County Rec playground, by baseball fields; there will also be a CONGREGATIONAL MTG. the sole purpose of accepting Rev. Mark Piedmonte's Terms of Call
Tuesday, September 15 Sunday, September 20 Friday, September 25 Sunday, September 27	Deacon Meeting 6:00pm Installation of Rev. Mark Piedmonte 3:00pm S'More Time w/Jesus – Lego Challenge 6pm Deliver Tie Blankets to Ronald McDonald House

- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Sunday, September 13, 11am (Immediately following the Blessing of the Backpack service at the Park).** Please stay after the service for an important vote on Pastor Mark's Terms of Call. Copies of the Terms may be picked up anytime at the church office M/W/F 10-3. They may also be emailed by request.
- **September 20th** normal worship service times of 9am and 11am will continue, with a special installation at 3pm of Pastor Mark with Presbytery and invited guests present. Fellowship to follow – Debi Cook will need a head count from those planning to attend. All are welcome. **All safety protocols are in effect with masks and distancing.**
- Collecting supplies for **Buckingham Elementary School:** Hand sanitizers, Clorox wipes, Tissues, Disinfectant spray, Disposable masks, Pencil boxes, Crayons, Kid scissors, Glue sticks, Markers, Pencils, Boys & girls underwear size 4-12, Pants, Socks, Sweatshirts, Unisex shirts & shorts; if you like to sew, use kid's size cotton face masks, as well.
- **WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR in STUDIES for SPIRITUAL FORMATION?** Pastor Mark is eager to know your thoughts and needs for studies you'd like to see and engage in. What topics are of interest to you? (E.g., Books of the Bible? Prayer/Spiritual Practices? Presbyterianism and Reformed Theology? Other Christian and Non-Christian Traditions?) What would feed your heart, minds, and souls in study together? Also, what days and times would work best for you? And are you most comfortable meeting socially-distanced in person or by ZOOM? Please take a moment to think this over and let Pastor Mark or any member of the Spiritual Life Committee know (Mitchell David, Carol Neal, Tammy Nickell, Mike Leyden) Thanks! We hope for some great responses and to get some things going soon!

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INTROIT: WE ARE STANDING ON HOLY GROUND



We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

1ST HYMN: I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY



I, The Lord Of Sea And Sky,
I Have Heard My People Cry.
All Who Dwell In Dark And Sin,
My Hand Will Save.
I Who Made The Stars Of Night,
I Will Make Their Darkness Bright.
Who Will Bear My Light To Them?
Whom Shall I Send?

(Refrain) Here I Am Lord, Is It I, Lord?
I Have Heard You Calling In The Night.
I Will Go Lord, If You Lead Me.
I Will Hold Your People In My Heart.

I, The Lord Of Snow And Rain,
I Have Borne My People's Pain.
I Have Wept For Love Of Them, They Turn Away.
I Will Break Their Hearts Of Stone,
Give Them Hearts For Love Alone.
I Will Speak My Word To Them
Whom Shall I Send? **(Refrain)**

I, The Lord Of Wind And Flame
I Will Tend The Poor And Lame.
I Will Set A Feast For Them,
My Hand Will Save
Finest Bread I Will Provide,
Till Their Hearts Be Satisfied.
I Will Give My Life To Them,
Whom Shall I Send? **(Refrain)**

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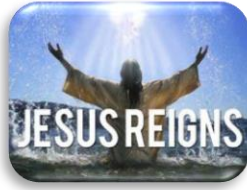
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SONG OF PRAISE: JESUS SHALL REIGN WHERE'ER THE SUN



Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Doth his successive journeys run;
His Kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more

2nd HYMN: LIFT HIGH THE CROSS



Refrain:

Lift high the cross
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore
His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow
Where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious,
Christ, the Son of God. **(Refrain)**

All newborn servants
Of the Crucified
Bear on their brow
The seal of Christ who died. **(Refrain)**

O Lord, once lifted
On the glorious tree,
Your death has brought
us life eternally. **(Refrain)**

So shall our song
Of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified
For victory. **(Refrain)**

CLOSING HYMN: WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT (THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE)

We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored

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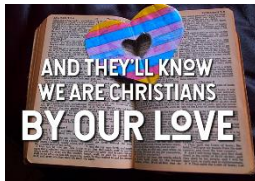
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And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored



(Refrain) And they'll know we are Christians
 By our love, By our love
 Yes, they'll know we are Christians
 By our love

We will walk with each other
 We will walk hand in hand
 We will walk with each other
 We will walk hand in hand
 And together we'll spread the news
 That God is in our land **(Refrain)**

We will work with each other
 We will work side by side
 We will work with each other
 We will work side by side
 And we'll guard human dignity
 And save human pride **(Refrain)**

All praise to the Father
 From whom all things come
 And all praise to Christ Jesus God's only son
 And all praise to the Spirit
 Who makes us one **(Refrain)**



(Refrain) And they'll know we are Christians
 By our love, By our love
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Queen Esther via Live Streaming
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