



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 12, 2021

**It's the faith that carries the cross, that embraces death and lays itself down for the sake of others;
It's the only faith that can lead us to resurrection to life renewed and overflowing.
We praise You for this faith, God, and open our hearts to receive it. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

It's not money, but our generosity with it; it is not power, but our willingness to humble ourselves; it is not our efforts, but Christ's gift; it is not our thoughts and words, but what we learn from silence in the depths of our hearts--these are what transforms us into God's children.

**It is more than just how we think. In mercy and grace, our hearts, our lives, our spirits are transfigured and made new.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**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.**

Scripture Lesson

A Reading from the Apocrypha:
Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1

For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets; for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun, and excels every constellation of the stars. Compared with the light she is found to be superior, for it is succeeded by the night, but against wisdom evil does

not prevail. She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

Anthem

“Great, Great Morning”

(Joseph Martin)

My Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall.
It will be a great, great morning; it will come without a warning
when we hear that trumpet sound.
Though we may not know the hour, we know Christ will come in power
and His trumpet blast will shake the ground.
All the saints will rise and be taken to the skies.
They will meet King Jesus in the air.
In-a that great getting up morning; fare thee well.
It's gonna be a getting up morning,
Great day, the righteous marching, great day!
I'll fly away, O glory! I'll fly away, in the morning,
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by.
In the twinkling of an eye, we will mount up to the sky.
Alleluia, we shall all be changed.
It will be a great, great morning, it will come without a warning.
O I will fly, I'll fly away.

Scripture Lesson

From the New Testament Letters:
James 3:1-12 (The Message)

Don't be in any rush to become a teacher, my friends. Teaching is highly responsible work. Teachers are held to the strictest standards. And none of us is perfectly qualified. We get it wrong nearly every time we open our mouths. If you could find someone whose speech was perfectly true, you'd have a perfect person, in perfect control of life.

A bit in the mouth of a horse controls the whole horse. A small rudder on a huge ship in the hands of a skilled captain sets a course in the face of the strongest winds. A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything—or destroy it!

It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world,

turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell.

This is scary: you can tame a tiger, but you can't tame a tongue—it's never been done. The tongue runs wild, a wanton killer. With our tongues we bless God our Father; with the same tongues we curse the very men and women he made in his image. Curses and blessings out of the same mouth!

My friends, this can't go on. A spring doesn't gush fresh water one day and brackish the next, does it? Apple trees don't bear strawberries, do they? Raspberry bushes don't bear apples, do they? You're not going to dip into a polluted mud hole and get a cup of clear, cool water, are you?

The Church Gathering in Prayer

Prayer Concerns -- Silent Prayer -- Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

God's Wisdom reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other; and we have a part in that, by what we give and what we share of ourselves! Let us bring our gifts to the Lord.

Offertory

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Scripture Lesson

From the Gospels:

Mark 8:27-37 (New Revised Standard Version)

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

MINISTRY & SERVICE

589 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas-ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, win-ning word of love;
3 Teach me thy pa-tience—still with thee in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the fu-ture's broad-ening way,

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

tell me thy se - cret: help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
teach me the way-ward feet to stay, and guide them in the home-ward way.
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that tri-umphs o - ver wrong;
in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with thee, O Mas-ter, let me live.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a melodic line with some grace notes and slurs. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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