

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

October 21, 2020

Psalm 110 (NRSV)

Of David. A Psalm.

- 1 *The Lord says to my lord,
“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies your footstool.”*
- 2 *The Lord sends out from Zion
your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your foes.*
- 3 *Your people will offer themselves
willingly
on the day you lead your forces
on the holy mountains.
From the womb of the morning,
like dew, your youth will come to you.*
- 4 *The Lord has sworn and will not change
his mind,
“You are a priest forever according to
the order of Melchizedek.”*
- 5 *The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his
wrath.*
- 6 *He will execute judgment among the
nations,
filling them with corpses;
he will shatter heads
over the wide earth.*
- 7 *He will drink from the stream by the
path;
therefore he will lift up his head.*

Meditation

Read Mark 9:27-38

One way of thinking of the meaning and purpose of Jesus life and ministry is to consider his title: “Messiah” or “Christ”. Both Messiah and Christ mean the same thing—“Anointed One”. Jesus was uniquely anointed by the power of the Holy Spirit in his baptism (Matt. 3:13-17). The meaning of Jesus’ anointing is often connected with anointing in the Old Testament. In the Old Testament, anointing was reserved for three particular offices—prophets, priests, and kings. To say that Jesus is the Messiah, or anointed one, is to say that he fulfilled all of these offices.

Prophets are people who speak for God, and serve as a channel of communication between God and us. Although prophets may foretell the future, their primary role is to tell people what God is like and how God is working in their present situation. Prophets call people to repent, forsake their disobedience and idolatry, and return to the way of the Lord. They point the way to God’s love and grace. Moses is considered the greatest of the prophets; through him God defined his relationship with his people and taught them how to live in holiness and truth.

As a prophet, Jesus speaks God’s word to us by his teaching and example. He tells us what it means to live as a child of God by using powerful images and parables. He describes love for God, love for others, and love for self in ways that are both simple and profound. His actions demonstrate the real meaning of his words as he feeds the hungry, welcomes outcasts, heals the sick, and even raises the dead. Jesus not only speaks God’s word to us, he is God’s Word incarnate (John 1:1-14). Jesus reveals God to us in the fullness of God’s love and glory. To know Jesus is to know God (John 14:6-10).

Priests offered sacrifice for sin, interceded for people with God, and blessed people in God’s name.

Jesus is the consummate priest. He not only offers

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Jesus Christ —

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sacrifice for our sins, he *is* the sacrifice for our sins. John the Baptist calls him “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). He sacrificed himself for our sin “once for all” (Heb. 7:26-28). Through faith in him, our sin is forgiven and we’re reunited with God for eternity. At the cross Jesus’ sacrifice reconciles us with God. Jesus continues to intercede (pray) for us with God the Father even after he ascends into heaven (Rom. 8:34). He is able to understand our needs and concerns, for he lived as one of us. He carries our prayers to our heavenly Father’s throne and pleads our case in his presence. And Jesus blesses us in the name of the Father. He blesses us with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and with many other gifts besides (Eph. 1:3). Above all, he blesses us through the gift of his death and resurrection.

In the Old Testament, kings ruled God’s people on God’s behalf. They were intended to be shepherd-kings, who never sought their own glory, but only sought God’s will and the good of the people. As long as they ruled in the will of God, they ruled with the power of God. David, even though he was imperfect, came closest to God’s ideal of a king.

Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16). He rules all creation, and conquers all things, even death itself (1 Cor. 15:24-28). His rule is not yet fully acknowledged in this world, but the day will come when he returns to the earth and we reign with him in glory. We look for his triumphant coming as we also acknowledge him as king and ruler of our own lives. He is the Good Shepherd, the shepherd-king who rules our hearts in the light of God’s love, and seeks our good above all things. He is the one who works for good in all circumstances for those who love him and have been called according to his purpose (Rom. 8:28).

When we understand Jesus Christ as Prophet, Priest, and King, the question becomes this: Do we *experience* him as Prophet, Priest, and King? Do we follow his teaching and try to live as he did? Do we

know that our sin is forgiven, that we are saved by the power of the cross? Do we trust that he intercedes for us in heaven, and blesses us beyond measure? Do we allow him to rule as the shepherd-king of our lives, even as we pray for his kingdom to come on earth? May God bless us with an ever-growing knowledge of the Messiah, Jesus Christ our Lord, to the grace of his Holy Spirit.

Pastor Rick

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, teach us to know you as Prophet, Priest, and King. May we live according to your perfect love, rejoice that our sins are forgiven, and look forward to your return in glory.

We pray for our nation in these troubled times. We pray for unity, we pray for guidance, we pray for liberty with justice for all. We pray that you bring healing to our world in this time of pandemic and suffering. We pray for all who need a special touch of your grace—the sick, the grieving, the depressed, the homeless, and people in every kind of need.

Enable us to live in the power of your Holy Spirit as we honor Jesus as our Messiah—Prophet, Priest, and King. Help us to share his love with others as we reach out to meet the needs of our community and our world; for this we pray in his name. Amen.

SCCAP Thanksgiving Bags

We will be supporting SCCAP again this year with Thanksgiving Bags. The bags are located in the gathering area of the church and should be filled with 2 cans of green beans, 2 cans of corn, 2 cans of mixed fruit, a box of stuffing, a box of instant potatoes, a can of sweet potatoes, 2 jars of turkey gravy and

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Prophet, Priest, and King

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\$3.00 enclosed in an envelope which will be used to purchase rolls.

The bags should be brought back with your purchases no later than Nov. 15.

Church Conference

Our annual Church Conference will be held at the conclusion of our worship service (around 11:25 am) on Sunday, November 8. We hope to be able to hold the Church Conference in combined in-person and Zoom formats. All members of the church are encouraged to attend and vote. Church conference elects officers for 2021, sets the pastor's 2021 compensation, and receives various reports.

Voting Questions?

Deanna Painter is willing and available to answer any questions or issues you may have concerning the voting process in the upcoming General Election. She is also able to help you find transportation to the polls on Nov. 3. Her phone number is (717) 586-7334 and her email is deannapainter@hotmail.com.

The United Methodist Bishops in the US are encouraging everyone to vote, and to work for a free and fair election process especially this year.

Weekly Prayer Concerns

To add someone to this prayer list, please call the church office.

This week's list (as of 10/20/2020) is:

Family and friends of Pam Giles (Vic Reale's step-daughter) who has gone home to be with the Lord..

Barbara Evans

Joyce Dye

Rodney Truscott

Dale Shade—recovering from surgery

Penny Daugherty

Scott Bowers

Rochelle Lutz

Imogene Hunt's brother

Members in Assisted Living / Skilled Care Homes:

Edith Bulman (SpiriTust Lutheran, York);

Kermit Carlson (Paramount, Fayetteville);

Shirley Hammond (Morning Glory, Little-

stown); Missy Legay (Moul Home, York); Bob

Reed (Lorien, Mt Airy, MD); Peggy Reynolds

(Quincy-cottage), Waynesboro); Gloria Swin-

gler (Country Meadows-apartment), Mechan-

icsburg

Members with Limited Mobility:

Butch Carter, Betty Cook, Joyce Dye, Pearl

Keckler, Raymond Koenig, Chuck Lutz, Ruth

Anna Polley, Wilma Schaible, Betty Schulteis,

June Spencer, Virginia White

Thanksgiving Dinner

Our annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Tuesday, November 17 as a take-out meal.

The dinner will be prepared and available for pickup at the Sterner Building in the Rec Park in Gettysburg. Pickup will begin at 5:00. As always, plenty of help will be needed to prepare and serve the meal. Tickets (250 total) are required and will be available through the church at a cost of \$1 per adult.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the church in the near future for those who are able to help, or you may call Dale Shade at (717) 359-4626 to volunteer. We will follow CDC protocols for masks and social distancing.

Kennie's Market has generously donated 250 plastic grocery bags, so donations of additional grocery bags are no longer needed. We appreciate everyone who has donated bags so far.

HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

Anonymous (Munster Gesangbuch);

Anonymous (Schlesische Volkslieder)

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

Both the text and the tune of *Fairest Lord Jesus* are anonymous. The text was first published in Germany in 1677, and the first three stanzas were translated into English by Richard Storrs Willis in 1850. The fourth stanza was translated by J. A. Seiss in 1873. The tune was first harmonized by Richard Storrs Willis in 1850, when it appeared with this text. It was originally a Silesian folk song.

The hymn celebrates the beauty of God's creation even as it praises the greater beauty and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is truly Lord and Creator of all! It may be found as number 189 in *The United Methodist Hymnal*.

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and October 28 is Pastor Rick's birthday. Staff-Parish Relations is holding a card shower to celebrate these events. Please drop an appreciation, thank you or birthday card in the bag in the church lobby for Pastor Rick. They will be presented to him on October 25.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers for Sunday, Oct. 25, are presented in loving memory of Pat Riley's birthday by Ginger Riley.

We greatly appreciate your continued faithful donations to GUMC during this time of change and crisis. Your faithfulness has enabled us to continue to pay all of our expenses, and we are very grateful for your continued generosity.

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