



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**September 27, 2020**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin  
Senior Minister

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Martin

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CORONATION

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dr. Martin and **People**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

**Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;  
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.**

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!**

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

Dr. Martin and **People**

**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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,**



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and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *\*universal UMH 881*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

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.

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:*

“The peace of Christ be with you.” “**And also with you.**”

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Dr. Martin

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. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

*More Like You, Lord*

Jay Althouse

*More like you, Lord, will I be, if your Spirit dwells in me.  
Fill my soul with peace and love; make me gentle, like a dove.*

*More like you, Lord, this I pray; guide me each and every day.  
Teach me, Lord, how I may live, and all my sins, Lord, please forgive.*

*Rich in faith, Lord, will I be if your presence walks with me.  
More like you, Lord, hear my song. My heart and soul to you belong.*

*If your spirit dwells in me, more like you, Lord, will I be.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Dr. Martin and People

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Matthew 21:23-32*

Dr. Martin

*<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what*

authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Questioning Authority*

Dr. Martin

**HYMN**

*Forth in Thy Name, O Lord*

DUKE STREET

*Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue:  
thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.*

*The task thy wisdom hath aligned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;  
in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.*

*Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see,  
and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.*

*For thee delightfully empty whatever thy bounteous grace hath given;  
and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

**POSTLUDE**

*A Tune for a Trumpet*  
Rick Massengale, organ

Gilbert M. Martin

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only.  
Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.  
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Jackie Amos  
Billy Arnold  
Van Askew  
Carolyn Broady  
Annelle Burch

Joe Byers  
Quentin Cash  
Richard Clayton  
Howard Dunham  
Margaret Grainger

Martha Hale  
Cindy Jennings  
Doris Kerlin  
Margie McClendon  
Lurlene Perry

Claudia Rhodes  
Mabel Wilbanks  
Brad Wilkinson

**The rosebud on the altar today is presented to the glory of God**

and in celebration of the birth of Robert Tillman Schott born June 8, 2020. Parents are Rachel & Richard Schott, grandparents are Becky and Larry Voyles and great-grandmother is Helen Voyles.



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