

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: On this day of Pentecost, as Jesus had promised, the Holy Spirit was poured out on His disciples, enabling them to share God's Word with boldness. Because the Holy Spirit has worked faith in our hearts, we know that "if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, our words, and actions. We have grieved Your Spirit within us, preferring our ways to Your ways. Apart from Your grace we are lost and cannot find our way. Grant us Your forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Leader: People of God, as a servant of the Word I announce to you that God has had mercy on you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives all your sins. He gives power to become children of God to those who believe in Him, and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

People: Amen.

Scripture Readings May 23, 2010

Genesis 11:1-9 *The Tower of Babel*

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Acts 2:1-21

Reader: When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying,

People: "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? We hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

Reader: And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another,

People: "What does this mean?"

Reader: But others mocking said,

People: "They are filled with new wine."

Reader: But Peter, standing with The Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

John 14:23-31a

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

STATEMENT OF FAITH: *The Third Article of the Apostle's Creed and its Explanation*

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

What does this it mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day He will raise up me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Sermon Outline ~ May 23, 2010

"From Babel to Pentecost"- *Genesis 11:1-9 & Acts 2:1-39*

1. A kingdom built by _____.

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:4

2. A kingdom built by _____.

But he (King David) was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that He (God) would place one of his descendants on his throne.

God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God...

Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. Acts 2:30, 32-33, 36

3. You are the recipient of a _____.

The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call. Acts 2:39

Answers to Sermon Outline: men, God, promise

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 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.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever... Amen...

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: And the people took the blessing and held it in their hearts.

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!