

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: Good and gracious God, we praise you for claiming us as your very own children! But as children, there are times when we act like that. We think we are more mature than we really are. We disobey your will. We fight amongst ourselves. We are too often self-centered and we whine about what you will or will not do. But we long to be your faithful children, Lord. We seek your forgiveness so that we might know the joy of being truly loved, truly safe, with our future truly secure. You have made it so in Christ. It is in His precious name that we ask for your grace. Amen.

## Scripture Readings

August 16, 2009

### Deuteronomy 32:6-10

Is this the way you repay the LORD, O foolish and unwise people? Is he not your Father, your Creator, who made you and formed you?

Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past. Ask your father and he will tell you, your elders, and they will explain to you.

When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when he divided all mankind, he set up boundaries for the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel.

For the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance. In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

### 1 John 2:28-3:10

And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

### Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

## APOSTLES' CREED

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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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

"Children of God"

1 John 2:28-3:10

Introduction: "Where a kid can be a kid!"

"A child(?! ) of God..."

1. \_\_\_\_\_ children

*"And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming." 2:28*

2. Children \_\_\_\_\_.

*"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" 3:1*

3. \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

*"...Now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." 3:2*

4. "Where are your \_\_\_\_\_?"

*"No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray." 3:6-7*

5. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God." 3:9*

Answers to Sermon Outline: Dear, of God, now, yet, parents, choose the right

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

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!