

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Lord God, Heavenly Father, as we gather to worship you we acknowledge and confess that our worship is not always what You long for it to be. Sometimes we are reluctant to come, wishing we were elsewhere. Sometimes we are guilty of wanting it to be "worth our time." Other times we are critical, or judgmental, or impatient. Forgive us for our selfishness, O Lord. Let us worship you simply because we are so grateful for your gifts to us. Let us worship so that we may meet you here and grow closer to you. Teach us to worship you by your Spirit and in Truth. Amen.

## Scripture Readings

November 2, 2008

### 2 Chronicles 7:1-5

When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. The priests could not enter the temple of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled it. When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying,

"He is good; his love endures forever."

Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD. And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand head of cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep and goats. So the king and all the people dedicated the temple of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

### 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

### John 4:19-26

"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Outline ~ November 2, 2008  
Conditions for Growth ~ Part 5  
"Inspiring Worship"

Introduction:

"Where God is clearly present and actively sought."

A Worship discussion from John 4...

1. Inspiring worship "\_\_\_\_\_."

*"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet." v. 19*

2. False worship \_\_\_\_\_ us from God.

*"Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." v. 20*

3. Inspiring worship helps us \_\_\_\_\_.

*"You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews." v. 22*

4. Inspiring worship \_\_\_\_\_ His Spirit to be active among us.

*"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks." v. 23*

5. Inspiring worship is built on the \_\_\_\_\_.

*"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." v. 24*

6. Inspiring worship: "\_\_\_\_\_!"

*Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" v. 28-29*

Answers to Sermon Outline:

hits home, distances, meet Jesus, expects, Truth, What a great Jesus we have!

**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!