

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: Lord God, Heavenly Father, it is not easy to do your will in this world. We have divisions and factions. We take sides too often. We forget that you alone are the one who produces life in us and in every living thing. We want to take credit for our successes and then blame others -- even You -- when we fail. Humble our hearts, O Lord, and fill our emptiness with your grace and fervent faith which trusts in You alone. We ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### Scripture Readings November 8, 2009

#### Exodus 15:11-13, 17-18

"Who among the gods is like you, O LORD?

Who is like you— majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glory, working wonders?

You stretched out your right hand  
and the earth swallowed them.

"In your unfailing love you will lead  
the people you have redeemed.

In your strength you will guide them  
to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them

on the mountain of your inheritance—  
the place, O LORD, you made for your dwelling,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, your hands established.

The LORD will reign for ever and ever."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

#### 1 Corinthians 3:1-16

Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere men?

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

#### Mark 4:26-29

##### *The Parable of the Growing Seed*

He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

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

Sermon Outline • November 8, 2009

"Grow, With Grace" • Produce

*1 Corinthians 3:1-16*

Introduction: "Just win, baby!"

Produce. (AKA "Grow, With Grace")

1. \_\_\_\_\_!

*"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow." 3:6*

- The step that in \_\_\_\_\_ way is up to God alone.

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

*"So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building." 3:7-9*

- At least as much as what we produce.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ." 3:10-11*

- Who are you standing on -- and with?

4. \_\_\_\_\_?

*"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?" 3:16*

- A people who " \_\_\_\_\_" the Holy Spirit.

Answers to Sermon Outline: Now we're really out of control! EVERY, How we produce matters. Standing on the shoulders of others. What is God producing? "house"

## 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.

## 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!**