

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: Lord God, Heavenly Father, we are in need. Our sinful condition undermines our faith and trust in you. We so often think that our way is better than yours. We fail to turn to your Word and promise when we need counsel. We forget that your Spirit is a gift to every believer to comfort and grant us wisdom. Forgive us, dear Lord, and help us to constantly turn to you and your Holy Spirit for counsel and understanding; for comfort and encouragement; for grace and mercy in our time of need. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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.

Scripture Readings November 29, 2009

Isaiah 11:1-5

The Branch from Jesse

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD -
and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.
Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!

"Who has known the mind of the Lord?

Or who has been his counselor?"

"Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay him?"

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

John 14:15-27

"If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?"

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.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Outline • November 29, 2009
"Love Came Down" • "Wonderful Counselor"
Isaiah 9:6; John 14:15-27

Introduction: "Wonderful counseling..."

Love Came Down to Counsel and Comfort Us

1. The Wonderful Counselor _____.

"The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord." Isaiah 11:2

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." Romans 8:26

- But is a great _____ as well.

2. The Wonderful Counselor _____.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God ; trust also in me." John 14:1

"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." John 14:26

- He doesn't " _____."

3. The Wonderful Counselor_____.

"He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth." Isaiah 11:3-4

- That has the blessing of God.

4. The Wonderful Comforter_____.

*Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:5-6
"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." John 14:18*

- And He cares for us anyway.

5. The Wonderful Comforter_____.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. v. 16-17

- _____.

Answers to Sermon Outline: has expert advice, listener, gives expert advice, "fleece the sheep", has a plan, knows we're lost without Him, is present, and remains with us forever.

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!