

Samuel Anoints David, artist unknown



Lazarus and the Rich Man, by Nigel Lawrence

OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022



WESTWOOD FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CINCINNATI, OH

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Welcome and Announcements

[Please take a moment to silence all mobile devices and prepare for worship.]

Prelude: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"—arr. Dale Wood

Ringling of the Tower Bell

[Where indicated (*), those who are able are invited to stand.]*

Choral Introit: "I Will Sing Unto the Lord"—John Ness Beck

* **Call to Worship** (*Responsive*)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

And also with you!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place...

Who are we that you are mindful of us?

Creator of Heaven and Earth, thank you for creating us and loving us in a way that knows no limits.

We acknowledge you as Lord and praise you for all of creation.

Holy Spirit, we welcome you in this time of praise and worship.

Touch us, Lord, shape us and mold us into the disciples of Jesus Christ that you call us to be.

Opening Prayer

* **Hymn No. 477:** “*Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*”

You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still He is nigh—His presence we have;
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give Him His right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing with angels above
And thanks never ceasing for infinite love.



Invitation to Confession/Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Merciful Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free—but they are not! Heal us with your word, and our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.

A Moment for Silent, Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness (*1 John 1:4-7—responsive*)

“And these things we write, so that our joy may be made complete. And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Thanks be to God.

May that peace—the peace of Christ—be with you, now and always.

And also with you

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS



September WestFed Food Pantry needs: Soup, crackers and toothpaste.



Flowers are given:

- ♥ By Barb Phillipps in memory of Jim..
- ♥ With greetings and blessings from Wayne and Carla Barlow now living in Baltimore, MD.



Prayers are requested for:

- ♥ Diane Ringshauser, who is undergoing chemotherapy
- ♥ Bonnie Shuman, Heather’s sister, recovering from recent health issues.
- ♥ The family of Sylvia Roth, in the wake of her recent passing.
- ♥ Ruth Peck, a friend of Barb Neiman.
- ♥ Claudia, Barb Neiman’s cousin.
- ♥ Vicki Schickner and her family, in the wake of John’s passing.
- ♥ Janet Zeigler as she continues to battle cancer.
- ♥ Bob Peters, a friend of Denny and Beth Richmond.
- ♥ Walt Albers, Linda Gardner’s brother, facing cancer surgery.
- ♥ Bob and Cindy Robertson, friends of Pastor Jeff and Jane.
- ♥ Lore McBain and her family, cousins of Pastor Jeff.
- ♥ Andre and Ada Tribble, Chancie’s parents, dealing with health issue.
- ♥ Greg Vails, recovering from surgery.
- ♥ Cathie and Larry DeFazio, dealing with on-going health issues.
- ♥ Linda Kugele who continues to deal with breathing issues.
- ♥ Our homebound members and friends.
- ♥ Our Scouting units, their families and leaders.
- ♥ Our Session, our committees, and the discernment team.
- ♥ Our partnership with City Gosel Mission’s Princesses Ballet.



A BIG THANK YOU to those who have stepped up as Coffee Hour hosts, but **WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!** Please consider taking a turn this Fall. The sign up sheet is on the table in the parlor. Directions for the hosts are posted in the Deacon Kitchen. Your Congregational Life Team thanks you!!



This Morning’s Coffee Hosts: Holly and Natalie Scheper

MOMENT FOR MEDITATION: THE VALUE OF TOUCH

We can go weeks or months without touch beyond casual business or introductory handshakes. Unless we have children of our own or family members that live nearby, it just doesn't happen.

We live in a culture that values independence, privacy and personal space. We like to leave seats between ourselves and the people next to us on buses, in movie theaters and in restaurants. We can be so touch-averse that we bristle if someone brushes up against us. Public displays of affection, even when appropriate, can make us cringe. We also have to overcome the social stigma against physical touch between friends of the same sex or between men and women who are not romantically involved. Our lack of positive, healthy and meaningful touch can lead to dysfunction.

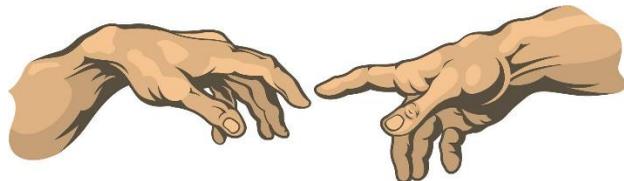
Did you know that "professional cuddlers" exist? People are paying to cuddle with another human being in businesses across the United States. While I would never frequent this type of establishment nor recommend it to others, I can understand the need underneath the patrons' decision. Unless we're grounded in our identity, we're going to look toward questionable outlets to connect physically.

We need physical touch, and we have a model in Jesus of what is appropriate, generous and pure, so what do we do? We meet that need in others. When we see a friend who could use a hug and an encouraging word, we provide it. If we sense God prompting us to get up and walk over to someone sitting alone in church and sit by them, we do it. If the person we're dating responds best to physical touch, feeling safe and secure when we grab their hand, that simple action can be important.

We don't give *to* receive, but God honors generosity and provides for His people. We ask Him to create in us a pure heart and renew a right spirit within us, so that we come to all of our acquaintances and relationships clean, with pure motives.

In a lonely and mixed-up culture, let's be Christians who are wise and discerning about physical touch, but also quick to see needs in others and meet them, knowing how vital it is to be warmly embraced, included and incorporated. Young and old, married and single, we all need the powerful, life-giving human connection of touch.

~ Lindsay Blackburn



* **Response: Gloria Patri** (*Unison*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end, amen, amen.**

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1, 4-12—*David Anointed as King*

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one."

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31—*The Rich Man and Lazarus*

¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.

²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.



²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.’ ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’

²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

Sermon: “*Shoe Man*”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Invitation to Stewardship

[No offering will be collected. Please place your offerings in the baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity—now and always!]

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Faithful One, you have entrusted us with so many gifts that are more important than worldly possessions. You have called us to be stewards of all that you have created. We strive to fulfill your call to be generous stewards by openly sharing the bounty you have placed under our care. We know that we visibly demonstrate our commitment to your work in this world by giving these tithes and offerings. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory Anthem: “*What Does the Lord Require?*”—Allen Pote
Chancel Choir, Heather MacPhail, Director

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

[During the prayer, everyone will have an opportunity to offer a joy or concern aloud. During the pause, feel free to call out the name of someone for whom prayer is requested, or briefly, a joy or concern on your heart. The prayer concludes with 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us—not into temptation—but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BEARING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

* **Hymn No. 388 (vv. 1, 2, 4):** “*O Jesus, I Have Promised*”



O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory there shall Thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

Charge and Benediction

Choral Response: “*May the Peace of God Surround You*”—Gary Matheny

Postlude: “*Allegro Vivace in Bb Major*”—G. F. Handel

LEADING WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Jeff Colarossi, *Pastor*

Heather MacPhail, *Organist/Director of Music Ministries*

Jason Dennison, *Videographer/Director of Technology*

Bill Seitz, *Lay Worship Leader*