

Additional Liturgy for October 1, 2017

For: Sher Wilkes

Suggested Announcements (please edit as desired):

The **POWER OF HOPE FUND OFFERING**, created by the congregation as a way to provide assistance to persons/families with exceptional needs, will be received in the Narthex following today's worship. Look for an Usher with a marked container.

The **PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY** meets this Tuesday, September 19, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. The Quilt Ministry meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month on the second floor of the church. For more information, contact Shirley Pippin at 956-358-0591.

The **"PRESENT WORD" SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** is participating in the Stewardship season study of "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations," led by Bob Simpson, Maria Colvin-Lopez, and Pastor Kathy. Join us in the Parlor at 9:00 a.m. next Sunday morning.

The Worship Calling is in need of **VOLUNTEERS FOR USHERS** during Sunday worship services. Normal attrition has left us short-handed. Ushers are organized into teams that rotate from month to month, so scheduling is flexible. Please volunteer by emailing Tom Ball at tomasball@aol.com.

Call to Confession

"Life without Jesus is a sewing machine come unthreaded: you pass over but you sew nothing." (*God is No Stranger*; prayers from Haiti)

Let us rethread our lives by turning to our Lord in prayer to confess where we have fallen short and are in need of help.

Prayer for Illumination

It's time to hear God's Word read and proclaimed. Let us pray:

O God, fill us with your Spirit and humble our hearts so that we can hear your Word. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:8-12 (NRSV)

- ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
- ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- ¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
- ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
- ¹² For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Invitation to the Offering

The works of the Lord are wondrous indeed. Let us offer back to God a portion of what has been given to us, for the glory of God's name.

Offertory Prayer

O God, use these gifts to do your will in the world and prepare us for your coming kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.