

A SERVICE OF PREACHING
Seventeenth Week after Pentecost
September 13, 1989

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Organ Prelude

*Call to Worship

L: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and Mother
and from the Sovereign Jesus Christ.

P: Because we have been strengthened by the grace of God, we are here
to offer our sacrifices of praise.

L: Let us worship God.

*Hymn No. 581 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

Call to Confession

L: The way of life God sets before us is not easy. The desires God
has for us challenge all that is superficial and routine. We are called to
grow in faith, to share in faith, to be ambassadors for Christ in our daily
lives, to be sentries who sound a warning against the wickedness we see
around us. Let us confess how limited our response has been.

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

O God, our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we waste away
because of them. We see evil all around us, but we do not oppose it, and
sometimes we are part of it. We have not shared the judgment and warnings
you make plain to us because we do not wish to offend or seem self-
righteous. The blood of others is on our hands, and that is even more
frightening than our personal guilt. O God, how can we be forgiven and
find the life you intend? Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: "As I live," says the Sovereign God, "I have no pleasure in the
death of the wicked, but desire that the wicked turn from their ways and
live." God does not abandon us in our failures or give up on us when we go
our own way. When, by neglect, we ally ourselves with systems and
institutions that oppress, God calls us to new responsibilities, teaches us
new ways, and strengthens us by grace we do not deserve. We are forgiven;
let us live and serve as forgiven people.

PROCLAMATION

First Lesson Philemon 1:8-14

Anthem

Second Lesson From the Book of Ezekiel
33: 10-11
18: 20-21, 30-32
11: 19-20
36: 26-27

Sermon

RESPONSES AND OFFERINGS

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

*Hymn No. 203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

SENDING FORTH

*Dismissal

L: May the God of peace go with you into the world
equipping you for the work God calls you to do.
Listen for the will of God and dare to follow it,
that God may be praised in the good you do.
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and Mother,
and from the Sovereign Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

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Preacher	Dr. Dan O. Via
Liturgist	Bruce Phillips
Reader	Anne Marie Marshbanks
Organist	David Arcus

The anthem today is the first offering of the Divinity School Choir for this semester. The choir is directed by Dr. Rodney Wynkoop.

Liturgical resources for this service are taken from Refreshing Rains of the Living Word by Lavon Bayler.