

³
THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "I Love to Tell the Story" James Boeringer

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Receive our gifts this day, O God, and transform them into blessings that grace the lives of other like an every-flowing stream. Receive our thanks and our praise, our industry and our love, that all might share your manifold blessings. Amen.

HYMN "Trust and Obey"

1. When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will,
he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

2. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, but our toil he
doth richly repay; not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. (Refrain)

3. But we never can prove the delights of his love until all on the
altar we lay; for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows, are for
them who will trust and obey. (Refrain)

4. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet, or we'll walk by
his side in the way; what he says we will do, where he sends we
will go; never fear, only trust and obey. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Laudation" Gilbert Martin

**Congregation stands as able*

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
17th Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 2020
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

10:15 A.M.

PRELUDE "Lord, Revive Us" Franklin Ritter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give ear to God's teaching as we gather to hear the stories of our
ancestors. We come seeking stories of God's wondrous power. We
come to drink deeply from the waters of life as we gather to
worship our Lord and Savior.

HYMN "Fairest Lord Jesus"

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
2 Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

OPENING PRAYER

See Insert for Responsive Reading

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 21:23-32

The Question about Jesus' Authority

²³ Jesus came back to the Temple; and as he taught, the chief priests and the elders came to him and asked, "What right do you have to do these things? Who gave you such right?"

²⁴ Jesus answered them, "I will ask you just one question, and if you give me an answer, I will tell you what right I have to do these things. ²⁵ Where did John's right to baptize come from: was it from God or from human beings?"

They started to argue among themselves, "What shall we say? If we answer, 'From God,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe John?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'From human beings,' we are afraid of what the people might do, because they are all convinced that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you, then, by what right I do these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

²⁸ "Now, what do you think? There was once a man who had two sons. He went to the older one and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ 'I don't want to,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. 'Yes, sir,' he answered, but he did not go. ³¹ Which one of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The older one," they answered. So Jesus said to them, "I tell you: the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the Kingdom of

God ahead of you. ³² For John the Baptist came to you showing you the right path to take, and you would not believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. Even when you saw this, you did not later change your minds and believe him.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

HYMN "Blessed Assurance"

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
(Refrain)

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
(Refrain)

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER