

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Schaller, Iowa  
September 27, 2020

10:00 A. M.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
Rev. Michael Sydnor

**PRELUDE**

Janice Ploeger, Organist

**CANDLELIGHTING**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Elder

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Elder: Let every tongue confess the good news:

People: Jesus Christ is Lord; glory to God!<sup>1</sup>

Elder: Let us worship God.

## **\*HYMN**

**“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”**

**#228**

**INVOCATION** (Please be seated)

**Pastor**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

**Elder**

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world, and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

## **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Pastor**

## **\*GLORIA PATRI #623**

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Old Testament:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Elder

The word of the Lord came to me: “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “ ‘The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb

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<sup>1</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 377). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 396). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

in Israel. For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die. 26 If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. 27 But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. 28 Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. 29 Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust? 30 “Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. 31 Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? 32 For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!

Leader:

The Word of the Lord:

People:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 21:23—32

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?” Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?” They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.” Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ “ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

**CHILDRENS TIME**

## #97

## POSTLUDE