

The First Baptist Church at Worship

14th Sunday After Pentecost

September 18, 2011

10:30 AM

(Please read as a preparation for worship.)

Avarice is a timely topic. Our current economic downturn is often attributed to greed grown out of control. This may be a causal connection that has been too easily drawn. We may not know much about greed after all. "Greed is a much more subtle vice than simply the desire to be rich." In the New Testament greed is considered "to be more of a threat for the ability to follow Christ than lust." Avaid Kleinburg observes that though Jesus was neither a glutton nor a libertine he seems to have viewed gluttony and lust with a compassion that was distinctively different from his condemnation of greed. He, in particular, calls attention to the rich man and Lazarus as an indication that Jesus regarded wealth itself as an obstacle to salvation. Our own lives get entangled in greed and envy. Yet how would we know if we are the greedy ones? We usually assume that only the wealthy are greedy. That this is not so should at least cause us some trepidation.

The Gathering

THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist
Debbie Lindley, Pianist

(We gather for personal and corporate reflection and prayer.)

Glorify Thy Name Donna Adkins
He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need arr. Bruce Greer
I Am His and He Is Mine James Mountain
A Child of the King John Sumner

In Praise to the Lord

CHORAL INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Come Away from Rush and Hurry #302 v.1

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#32 *God Has Spoken by the Prophets*
HYMN TO JOY

Anglican pastor and English hymn writer George W. Briggs penned these words in 1952. As Christians we are reminded that God spoke through the Old Testament prophets, through our Savior, Jesus Christ, with His Spirit speaking to us today. Something else to consider is that God also speaks through us in our thoughts, words and deeds!

*OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Jim Earnest

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#342 *He Is Exalted*
HE IS EXALTED

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him!
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord; forever His truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.**

*WELCOME & PASSING OF PEACE

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

(Please register your attendance by filling out a yellow card from the pew rack and placing it in the offering bag this morning.)

We are invited to greet our nearest neighbors, extend our hand,
and greet one another in the name of Christ.

(Please be seated.)

A MOMENT FOR MISSION

Mary K. Lee
CROP Hunger Walk

Reading & Proclaiming God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Michelle Smith

Exodus 16:2-15: The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him--what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. C. Roland Marcus

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Matthew.
People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Matthew 20:1-16: "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#586 *Grace Greater Than Our Sin*
MOODY

Julia Johnson was a prolific writer of Sunday School material for children. She also wrote over five hundred hymn texts. Some believe that God's infinite grace allows us to live irresponsible lives. When we understand God's grace as an example of how we should live, our lives are filled with that marvelous, infinite grace.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

(Children in preK-grade 4 will be led downstairs for Sunday School. Younger Children preK-K will go to Room #4 and older children grades 1-4 will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service.)

CALL TO PRAYER

#391 v.5 *Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire*
CAMPMEETING

**O Christ, by whom we come to God,
the Life, the Truth, the Way,
the path of prayer You also trod;
Lord, teach us how to pray!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Jason Alspaugh
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Debts & Debtors*)

ANTHEM Chancel Choir
His Love Never Fails Martin/Courtney

THE SERMON Dr. Rodney Kennedy

"Greed: A Deadly Sin"

The Response of God's People

THE OFFERTORY Greg Land & Debbie Lindley
Prayer for Blessing David Schwoebel

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #665 v.1 *Because I Have Been Given Much*
SEMINARY

**Because I have been given much, I, too, must give;
because of Thy great bounty, Lord, each day I live,
I shall divide my gifts from Thee with every person that I see
who has the need of help from me.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Michelle Smith

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

(Persons wishing to join First Baptist Church are invited to come forward while the organist plays the first verse of the recessional hymn. You may join First Baptist Church by confession of faith, transfer of letter, or statement of faith. The pastor will greet you as you come forward this morning.)

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #588 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*
EL NATHAN

As a Civil War prisoner of war, seriously wounded, Major Daniel Webster Whittle accepted Christ as his Savior while reading a Bible and ministering to his fellow prisoners. In our closing hymn Whittle reminds us that we do not know why God loves us in all of our unworthiness, but that we can rely and believe in that unending love and constantly carry that love with us.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL Dr. Rodney Kennedy

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #268 *The Bond of Love*
SKILLINGS

**We are one in the bond of love;
we are one in the bond of love.
We have joined our spirits with the Spirit of God;
we are one in the bond of love.**

*POSTLUDE Greg Land & Debbie Lindley
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name setting by James & Stan Pethel



At the close of today's service, the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the Chapel, located in the Beaver Wing. Immediately following the Lord's Supper, a Service of Healing will be held in the Chapel. The service consists of prayers for healing and wholeness, with anointing and laying on of hands. All are invited.

Worship Notes

Both scripture lessons today portray the people of God grumbling against God. In Exodus, the Israelites have been released from slavery, but in the midst of the desert wilderness, they long for the security and routine of their life in Egypt. In Matthew, Jesus tells the parable of the laborers in the vineyard, each of whom is paid the same daily wage despite having worked a different number of hours. In both Exodus and Matthew, the frustration of God's people is met with God's generosity and provision, as God rains manna on the Israelites and reminds the laborers that their anger grows out of his generosity, not any injustice they themselves have received. God's generosity faces human greed.

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Welcome to All

Before Worship: Children arriving with parents or grandparents at the 9:00 Sunday School hour may go downstairs to Room 3 for activities. A reminder to parents and grandparents: please pick up your children no later than 10:15 to give everyone enough time to prepare for worship.

Visiting the church today? Here's an invitation! Please join the congregation for Coffee Fellowship immediately after the service. We hope you'll stop by the Visitor's Table, say hello, and meet a few members of First Baptist Church.

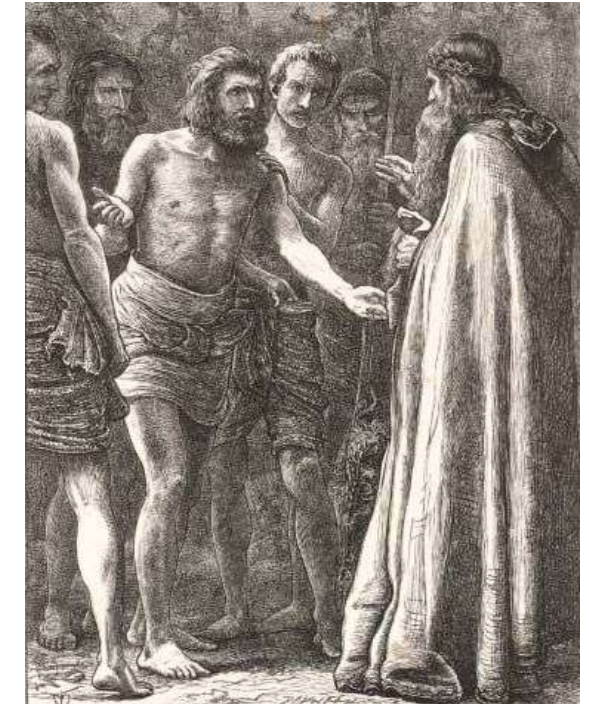
If you are visiting, **please register your attendance** on a yellow information card and fill in any needs or concerns you might have. Members are also asked to sign the information card. Prayer concerns or event registrations may be marked on these cards.

Childcare for infants and toddlers up to 3 years of age is available during worship and church school and is located in the West hallway. For your peace of mind, our nursery is equipped with a call-system that allows nursery caregivers to page our ushers should there be a need to contact the parents of an infant or toddler. Preschoolers are welcome to attend Children's Sunday School during morning worship at "Second Hour" (see below).

All children are invited to come forward for the **Children's Message**. Following the message the children will be led downstairs for **Sunday School**. Young children (preK-K) will go to Room #4 and children (grades 1-4) will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service. If you have questions or comments, please speak with Rev. Jason Alspaugh.

First Baptist Church of Dayton

14th Sunday After Pentecost



"The Laborers in the Vineyard"
by Sir John Everett Millais, 1864

Our Mission Statement:

*To celebrate God's love as a community of believers
in Jesus Christ through worship, education,
fellowship, and outreach to others.*

Dr. Rodney Wallace Kennedy, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Jason Alspaugh, *Associate Pastor Children & Youth*
Rev. C. Roland Marcus, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. James Earnest, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*
Ryan Gade, *Pastor Intern*
Ray Landis, *Music Director*
Gregory Land, *Organist*
R. Alan Kimbrough, *Organist*
Debbie Lindley, *Pianist*
Linda Mullins, *Financial Secretary*
Linda Blair, *Church Secretary*
Jerry Cook, *Custodian*

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