

LESSON “EXAMPLES OF THE PATIENCE & PURPOSE”
MONICA WHITEHURST

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Affirmation from 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1:15; 3:16; The United Methodist Hymnal, #889

There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As a shepherd searches for a lost sheep, as a woman searches for a lost coin, God seeks us out to save us. With gratitude and joy, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERING PRAYER

We rejoice and give you thanks, O God, for the lost have been found, sinners have received mercy, and the dead have been restored to life. Send us out in your service to tend your sheep and show the riches of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.



***Oaklette United Methodist Church
"God's Body in this Community"***

“Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people.”

***September 14, 2025
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost***



Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A Cry Room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and directions to these rooms. [†] = Invites persons to stand as they are able.

GREETING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-10 {NRSV}

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

PRELUDE “AIR” DANA MOODY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Lay Reader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: God has gathered us in from the wilderness.

Lay Reader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: God has swept away the darkness of the night.

Lay Reader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

OPENING PRAYER (ALL)

Christ Jesus, we stand in your presence, remembering your amazing welcome of all who are lost and fallen. Sometimes we feel as if we too belong in this group, for we’ve fallen short of who we might be. Still, we come into your presence with confidence in your love; and we praise you for the acceptance that you show us all. To you be honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (pp. 200-201). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

HYMN “To God Be the Glory” #98

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sisters and brothers, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God every time we turn toward our home and remember whose we are. With open hearts, let us pray.

Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home – until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored.

[silent confession]

But this we call to mind, and therefore have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. In the name of the Lord, who is our portion and our hope, I declare that our sin is forgiven. May our mouths be filled with praise.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM “GOD’S WORK “ CHANCEL CHOIR

EPISTLE READING 1 Timothy 1:12-17 [NRSV]

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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1. By grace we have been saved through faith and not by keeping law.
God’s saints believed by what they heard and not by what they saw,
and not by what they saw.
2. For all have sinned and fallen short. God’s plan not one obeyed.
Christ for all fulfilled the law, Believe, confess, be saved;
believe, confess, be saved.
3. God gave to earth a perfect love through Jesus on the cross.
While we were foes, Christ died for us. We gained by God’s own loss,
we gained by God’s own loss.
4. We know the wage of sin is death; thank God we shall revive.
For just as Jesus rose again, we too are made alive,
we too are made alive.
5. Set free. We now have peace with God. Salvation is secured.
How beautiful the feet of those who share the gospel word,
who share the gospel word.

BENEDICTION

May God bless you with the clarity to recognize the world as it is, the hope to dream God’s dream together, and the power to make God’s dream a reality here and now. Amen.

Today’s service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

*The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God.
The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God.*



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church
Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope
Lay Reader – Kelly Castellow
Audio-Visual Operator – Julian Baker
Greeter: Joanne Rooks
Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman
Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance
Financial Secretary: Edna Bess
Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens
Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson