

**RALEIGH MORAVIAN CHURCH**

**JULY 12, 2020**

**11:00 AM**

**Order of Service**

**PRELUDE:** *Andante* F. Mendelssohn  
Sara Montgomery, organ

**WELCOME** Barbara M. Styers

**OPENING HYMN:** *Grace and Peace* MBOW 444  
Molly Sharp, singing support

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

**HOMILY** Craig Troutman

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach arr. S. Mitchel  
Kelly Hall, clarinet Sara Montgomery, organ

**LITURGY: World Mission** MBOW, pp. 67-71 (excerpts)

God created the heavens and stretched them out, fashioned the earth and all that live there, and gave life and breath to all its people.

**And now the Lord God says to his servant: I, the Lord, have called you and given you power to see that justice is done on earth. Through you I will make a covenant with all peoples.**

Through you I will bring light to the nations. You will open the eyes of the blind,  
**And set free those who sit in dark prisons.**

TUNE: ST AGNES (14C)

Light of the world, come near and bless  
Your children here below,  
Who in your house your name confess,  
On us your grace bestow.

Light of the world, we worship you;  
Our gifts to you we bring;  
Accept our sinful hearts, O Lord,  
While praise to you we sing.

God shows no partiality to race or culture. All who have reverence for him and do what is right are acceptable to God.

**Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! For in our union with Christ he has blessed us by giving us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly world.**

Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son!

**How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such large measure!**

This is the good news: through Jesus' death and resurrection all people may participate in God's blessings.

**We are members of the same body and share in the promise that God made through Christ Jesus.**

There is no longer rich or poor, black or white, male or female; for we are all one in union with Christ Jesus.

**If we belong to Christ, then we are members of God's family and will receive what God has promised.**

TUNE: LUXEOI (167H)

Lord, you call us to your service --  
"In my name baptize and teach" --  
That the world may trust your promise:  
Life abundant meant for each.  
Give us all new fervor, draw us  
Closer in community;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
"I am with you to the end."  
Faith and hope and love restoring,  
May we serve as you intend.

And amid the cares that claim us,  
Hold in mind eternity.  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry.

*Text: Jeffery Rowthorn © Hope Publishing Company*

I looked, and there was a great multitude -- no one could count all the people! They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood in front of the throne and of the Lamb, holding palm branches in their hands. They called out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb!"

**Praise, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might belong to our God  
forever and ever! Amen!**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:**

*Covenant*

setting by S. McElroy