

PASTORAL PRAYER: July 20, 1980

HELP US, O GOD, in these quiet moments this morning to concentrate on You with faith and in hope.

REMOVE the lethargy from our spirits,
the doubt from our minds,
the coldness from our hearts.

REKINDLE our faith. Help it to be more adventurous.

REVIVE within each of us the confidence that You do hear and do answer prayer...and that "more things are wrought by prayer than this world has ever dreamed."

WE WOULD THINK of those who in the slowness of these hot, muggy days of a Summer in this city amid the perplexities of city life are searching for YOU.

MAKE YOURSELF known to us in our joys and in our disappointments.

MAKE YOURSELF known to us in the traffic of the weekday and the business of the world.

MAKE YOURSELF known to us in the hush of prayer, in the music of this service, in the preaching of Your Word.
Bless her who delivers Your word this hour.

BE KNOWN TO US as the friend of the lonely,
the strength of the weak,
the healer of the perplexed,
the comforter of the bereaved.

AND HELP THOSE OF US who trust completely in You to be now and always "agents" of Your way and "ambassadors" of Your love -

Pure in thought, gracious in our speech, courageous in our action, responsible in our relationships, generous in our giving.

Use us Lord - wherever we are called - to serve the cause, of peace, of justice and goodwill among the people of the world.

Remind us that we cannot fellowship with You, if in our hearts we reject or neglect our brother who is in need. Take us and use us to carve Your will in the world where we live and work.

We pray for the person sitting near us in the pew this hour.

Finally, grant to each of us that measure of peace and inner quietness that comes to those whose minds are focussed on You - that measure of peace that passes all human understanding. In the name and spirit of Christ we pray this day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, July 20, 1980

GREETING TO VISITORS

We take this moment to extend a word of welcome to the visitors who have joined us this morning. We are pleased to have you worshipping with us this morning and we do hope the opportunity will be ours to greet you personally before you depart - either at the door or downstairs in the Russell Room where punch and cookies will be served.

You worship in a Church that has been ministering to the needs of others in the name of Christ since the year 1837. It is in His name that we this morning bid you welcome. Be free in the sharing of your name with us; sign one of the Guest Books and join us on other Sundays in our worship and fellowship. "There are no strangers here"...."only friends who have not yet met!"

CONCERNS

Thinking for a moment in terms of pastoral concerns, I would mention that Daisy Herrick is a patient in Lenox Hill Hospital, having been admitted there on Thursday, July 17th.

As a part of our worship next Sunday morning, we shall observe the Sacrament of Adult Baptism. Our Vietnamese friend, Minh Nguyen, has made a decision and a commitment to Christ and the first step in his Christian pilgrimage will be the celebration of Minh's baptism...next Sunday in the service of worship.

PARTICIPANTS

We welcome Pamela Hubby as soloist today for the service and are grateful to Pam for sharing her gift of music with us and blessing us so beautifully with the two solos.

Again, our thanks to Michael Reed, at the organ console this Summer in the absence of Lyndon Woodside. What a lift he is giving to our summer service.

TODAY'S PREACHER

Let me share with you a letter received three years ago last June. Dated June 7, 1977 - from our District Superintendent, Dr. Kirkland. My reply was...

In three short years, Carol Lyons has not only endeared herself to many in this church, but she has also proven to be a dynamo of energy and is one of our most active, dependable members. She carries a heavy responsibility in our church "administrative works". As a volunteer Financial Secretary, ~~she~~ - ~~prepares our receipts for deposit at the bank and on most~~ ~~after you have left, Carol is quietly working away upstairs...opening~~ envelopes, posting pledges and preparing our receipts for deposit. She gives of herself most generously - to all of us. Always smiling, most enthusiastic, she is the most remarkable person! dependable -

We welcome her as today's preacher. A native of New Jersey, a graduate engineer of Rice University in Houston, a VP with Julius Blumegg, Inc., she is blessed with many skills and interests and abilities. I understand that she twice

as a student represented her state of New Jersey as a prize winning public speaker. She also knows how to prepare a delicious meal. Some of you may recall that it was Carol who put together the Buffet Luncheon last September the day we named the Russell Room. She also headed up the District Ministers Christmas party and what an evening that was!

Our Church has many gifted lay men and lay women. Carol ranks right up there with the rest of them....a dear friend, one whom I admire and to whom I am most grateful for all she does....she will preach on the theme, "Dare To Be Wrong".

OFFERING Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive". In this spirit let us worship God with our morning offering.

NEW BISHOP Today's NY Times shares the word that we have a new Bishop to lead us in this area of the United Methodist Church. We rejoice to hear that Bishop Roy Nichols has been assigned to this area. Bishop Ward has retired, as you know.

Bishop Roy Nichols is a friend....former pastor of Salem UM Church. here in the city, and for the past eight years has been the Bishop of the Pittsburgh Area. Also President of the College of Bishops of the UM Church.

PASTORAL PRAYER: July 13, 1980

LORD, some of us here today have the dark stain of sin upon us.

You once said that You can make us clean again, that you
can forgive us and that You can heal us.

You once even said that people can be "born again" - to a
new and a better way of life.

Lord, we believe it! And this is why we have come to Your
House this day - with high hopes and great expecta-
tions in our hearts...at work...

ERASE anything from this past week that would keep us from being free to
serve You.

ERASE those red marks of anger.

Too many times we turn "red" with anger. We lose our tempers and
end up saying these things that we later regret. We erupt like
little volcanoes and create paths of destruction before we re-
gain our self-control. And even then the fires of hate continue
to simmer in us.

ERASE, too, those green marks of envy that can be so destructive.

We see others who seem to be better off. We grow "green" with
envy because the "grass seems greener" in their lives. We
compare and then we covet. We cannot bring ourselves to re-
joice with those who rejoice because we have regret and
remorse over our own lot in life.

ERASE also the yellow marks of cowardice.

Yes, we back away when we need to take a stand. We fear the
battle for truth. We tremble at the thought of being alone
against the crowd. We shy away from those causes that
represent justice, truth and righteousness for all of Your
children.

CREATE IN US, O GOD, CLEAN HEARTS.

Then, with greater purity of heart we can see You and serve You.
Then, with cleaner hands we can begin to help others.

Help us to be born again in the spirit of Jesus, to let His
spirit flow in us and through us to others who are in need...
That we can be more human, more hopeful, more honest, more
humble.

Surround us with Your spirit. Surprise us with Your joy. Strengthen us in
Your word. Send us away with Your love in our hearts. All this we would
ask in the blessed name and the great spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 13, 1980

GREETING TO VISITORS We greet the visitors in the congregation this morning. We're delighted to have you sharing this beautiful July Sunday with us...and hope that the opportunity will be ours to greet you personally before you depart - either at the door or downstairs in the Russell Room where punch and cookies will be available.

We like to say "there are no strangers here....only friends who have not yet met ". Be free in the sharing of your name with us. Sign one of the Guest Books or a Welcome Visitor Card. Join us on other Sundays in our worship and fellowship.

You worship in a Church that has been ministering to the needs of others since 1837. It is in the name of Christ that we bid you welcome this morning.

CONCERNS Let me share a word or two with you regarding our pastoral concerns. Mrs. Edith Peart continues to be a patient in Doctors Hospital, 10th floor. How wonderful to see Beryl Wilks back with us and Helen Wier, too, following recent hospital visits.

Be sure to pick up a copy of the July issue of "A Word In Edgeways" in order to be up to date on church concerns and programs during July. Copies are in the narthex....

DURING JULY This Church has a great deal of talent, commitment, skill and dedication...among its laymen. From time to time, we like to invite our laymen to deliver a sermon.

Today, we welcome William Bell to the pulpit. In case you didn't know this, Bill is a native of Pittsburgh, reared a Methodist, attended college at Denison University in Ohio. He holds two graduate degrees: one (MA Deg from Union Theological Seminary here in the city. ~~A Masters in Divinity, completed 3 years of intensive study.~~ He also holds Law Degree from Fordham University.

to Teena,
Married, father of Jon Bell (who will be entering our Day School here in the Fall), Bill is the former District Manager of Community Planning Board No. 8. At present, he is working with Prudential Lines. Bill is our Associate Lay Leader. He is also an active member of the Education Committee, church camp coordinator and assistant vice-chairman of the Board. Bill we are blessed to have you as a part of this fellowship and we look forward to your sermon today.

Next Sunday, another of our laymen will step into the pulpit. Carol Lyons will preach on the theme, "Dare To be Wrong". Native of NJ and a graduate engineer of Rice University in Texas, Carol is a VP with Julius Blumberg. Carol serves on the Finance Committee, is Financial Secretary of our Church and is a very active, dedicated member. Tell you more about her next Sunday.

I'm grateful to both Bill and Carol for their willingness to preach, to provide me with a breather which I need...and a breather for you, too...

MUSIC Again we welcome Michael Reed to the organ console. He's been doing such a great job at the organ console for us in Lyndon's absence. How nice to welcome his parents to the service, today.

Janean Sherwin is today's a soloist. Janean, former chairman of the Music Committee, has been a mainstay of the choir for 13 years. Fine musician and a great spirit. Thank you for sharing your gift of voice with us this morning and blessing our service of worship.

CHILDREN The 13 children that went away to church camp have returned. We welcome them back....and are grateful for the notes and cards they sent to us. Fafa wrote and said:

"Hi....

Having lots of fun, learning new things every day and meeting lots of nice people.

Lots of love.

Fafa"

RETURN How nice to welcome Lynn wellman back to the city and to our Church. Lynn has been in Boston working on an MBA these past two years....and have received it, taken a job at CBS, Inc. and will be back with us here at the Church. Maybe we can get Lynn and her guitar into one of our services coming along.

OFFERING Jesus said: It is more blessed to give than to receive. In this spirit let us worship God with our morning offering.