

# TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas  
Vimeo Worship  
August 23, 2020

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth—

**People: For God keeps faith forever!**

Leader: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.

**People: God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.**

Leader: God lifts up those who are bowed down.

**People: God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.**

Leader: People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—

**People: For God keeps faith forever!**

### OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Our gracious God, like a loving parent you nurture and encourage and challenge us to grow in grace. Grant that by sensing your Spirit's presence in our midst, we may be enabled to mature in our commitment to you. Forgive our failures and show us once again our possibilities. Prepare us to be servants of your will and agents of your love in all the world. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:13-20 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE:** Who Do You Say I Am?

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**TIME OF SILENCE**

**OUR 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CLOSING WORDS**

**BENEDICTION (Unison)**

**Go out into the world in peace:  
Have courage;  
Hold on to what is good;  
Return no one evil for evil;  
Help the suffering;  
Honor all;  
Love and serve the Lord,  
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
Be upon you and remain with you forever.**

**Amen**

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**Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.**