

## Be Not Afraid

How would you live if you were not afraid? Fear is used by politicians to gain our votes, by the media to get our attention, by advertising firms to sell us what we don't need, and by TV evangelists to get our donations. What fears are used against us? One is scarcity, the fear that we won't have enough or won't get our share. Our false belief that having more money and "stuff" will save us binds us as slaves. In many cases, having less can free us to live by faith.

The writer of Hebrews 11:1 states, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Normally, we read forward from this verse, but the word "Now" is a clue that we should look back. Hebrews 10:39 says, "But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved." Who shrinks back? Those who are afraid. Who are saved? By implication, those who do not shrink back and are not afraid. So fear is not only a faith issue but an issue of our salvation. And is that not what we would expect? What more do we need to be saved from than our worst fears? What good is a savior who does not help us confront our fears? As noted above, our fears are the handles that marketers, politicians, and supervisors often use to control us and bend us to their plans and desires.

But like the pain that warns us of injury and nausea that tells us we are becoming ill, our fear has a positive use: it lets us know our vulnerability, and it tells us what we truly value and truly trust. "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). The powers and principalities promise us what we can see. Where do put our true faith and trust?



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## Pentecost 25

*November 11, 2018— 5:00 pm*

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please silence your mobile device, but you may download our worship folder onto it:  
[www.eastsidelc.org/radio.php](http://www.eastsidelc.org/radio.php)

### WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- ☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one God who fashioned us from the earth, who died and was raised to forgive our sins and bless us, the one God who reforms us again and again.
- ☑ Amen.
  
- ☐ Let us confess our sin, calling out for God's power to transform our lives. Source of all life,
- ☑ **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

- P** God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

### THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- G** **And also with you.**

### THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- G** **Amen.**

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

*The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.*

<sup>24</sup>Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

- L** The Word of the Lord! **G** **Thanks be to God!**

### HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

- P** The Gospel according to Mark the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter **G** **Glory to you, O Lord**

*After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of*

### THE BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- G** **Amen.**

### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Sovereign God,
- G** **in this meal you have given us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the lamb Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** **Amen.**

### THE DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- G** **We Will! Thanks be to God!**

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**THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE** (Lord in your mercy ... **hear our prayer**)

**WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

- P** The Lord be with you.      **C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.      **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:  
**C** **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 and ever. Amen.**

**THE DISTRIBUTION**

*All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord, and His Real Presence in the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord’s Supper. We will gladly commune anyone in their seat if they are unable to come forward for communion. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray. **Gluten-free communion wafers** are available upon request.*

*those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.*

<sup>38</sup>As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.      **C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

*Pastor Josh Johnson*

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

- P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**  
    **creator of heaven and earth.**
- I believe in Jesus Christ,**  
    **God's only Son, our Lord,**  
    **who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
    **born of the virgin Mary,**  
    **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
    **was crucified, died, and was buried;**  
    **he descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again;**  
    **he ascended into heaven,**  
    **he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**  
    **and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,**  
    **the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**  
    **the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**