



Sunday, October 18, 2026

Sunday Virtual Worship

SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Sunday, October 18, 2026

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Donald Moore

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lord, you have welcomed us, saying, "I know you by name, and you have found favor with me."

People: Lord, you have promised us, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Leader: Lord, you have blessed us, saying,
"I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you."

**People: Lord, you have humbled us, saying,
"I will proclaim my holy name in your presence."**

All: Lord, show us your glory! We gather in worship and praise.

*HYMN 262

"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

PRAYER of the DAY (In unison)

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

CALL to CONFESSION

The Lord says: I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. Let us confess our sin, casting ourselves on the promised mercy and compassion of God.

CONFESSION of SIN (In unison)

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

We add to these now our silent confessions.

SINGING 572

"Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. Hear the good news of salvation: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

***SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST**

CHORAL ANTHEM

“His River, His Peace”

Phillip Kern

PRAYER of ILLUMINATION (In unison)

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us.

Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 33:12-23 and Matthew 22:15-22

SERMON

“Render Unto Caesar (or, Gotta Keep ‘Em Separated)”

Rev. Myles Thompson

AFFIRMATION of FAITH (from *The Confession of 1967*)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

***HYMN 434**

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

INVITATION to the OFFERING

Jesus challenges us to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and unto God the things that are God’s. Trusting in God’s infinite care, we gratefully present our offerings for the sake of Christ’s work in the world today.

(Those joining us online may use our online giving platform at hocpc.org/give)

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

*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. Amen.*

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

Gracious God, we trust you to receive and multiply the blessings of these gifts, as we pour out your love and grace on those who long to hear your word to them, to see your power at work within them, and to feel your comfort beside them, through the generous gifts of your Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

***HYMN 543**

"Abide with Me"

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Give Thanks to God"

E. L. Ashford



Exodus 33:12-23

¹² Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³ Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider, too, that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

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Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

