

October 18, 2020  
20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**PRELUDES**

*When We Lowly Bow Before Thee  
Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth*

Robert J. Powell  
Felix Mendelssohn

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God is our protection, our refuge in times of trouble;

**P: The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup.**

L: Bless the Lord who gives us counsel;

**P: Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice.**

**All: Come, let us worship God.**

**Musical Introit #612**

*“We Praise You, O God”*

Kremser

(verse one)

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

(verse two)

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;  
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.

When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

(verse three)

With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.

With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

L: We are called to seek forgiveness before God with honesty and humility. Together, let us confess our sins before a God who is eager to forgive.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Gracious and Merciful God, we are convicted not only by that which we have done, but also by that which we have left undone. Forgive us for the times when we’ve stayed silent. Forgive us for the moments when we’ve chosen comfort over justice. Forgive us for those occasions when we’ve done what’s easy instead of what’s right. Give us courage to respond to your good news not just when it is convenient but especially when it’s the hardest thing to do. AMEN.**

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Friends, we worship a God who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus, I declare to you, our sins are forgiven.

**P: Thanks be to God. AMEN.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of all wisdom, gather our minds and hearts around your Word that we might be transformed by its reading and inspired to follow you in word and deed. AMEN.

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING – I Samuel 2:1-10

Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in my God.

My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory.

<sup>2</sup>“There is no Holy One like the LORD, no one besides you;  
there is no Rock like our God.

<sup>3</sup>Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth;  
for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

<sup>4</sup>The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.

<sup>5</sup>Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,  
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts.

<sup>8</sup>He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap,  
to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s, and on them he has set the world.

<sup>9</sup>“He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;  
for not by might does one prevail.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven.  
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.”

## ANTHEM

*Dona Nobis Pacem*

Lightfoot

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING – I Samuel 1:1-28

There was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of Tohu son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. <sup>2</sup>He had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. <sup>3</sup>Now this man used to go up year by year from his town to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD. <sup>4</sup>On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; <sup>5</sup>but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>6</sup>Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>7</sup>So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup>Her husband Elkanah said to her, “Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?”

<sup>9</sup>After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD.

Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. <sup>10</sup>She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly. <sup>11</sup>She made this vow:

“O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.” <sup>12</sup>As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup>Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she

was drunk. <sup>14</sup>So Eli said to her, “How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.” <sup>15</sup>But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup>Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.” <sup>17</sup>Then Eli answered, “Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.” <sup>18</sup>And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your sight.” Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer. <sup>19</sup>They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup>In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, “I have asked him of the LORD.” <sup>21</sup>The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. <sup>22</sup>But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.” <sup>23</sup>Her husband Elkanah said to her, “Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the LORD establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. <sup>24</sup>When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. <sup>25</sup>Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. <sup>26</sup>And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. <sup>27</sup>For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.” She left him there for the LORD.

**SERMON**

“For This Child I Prayed”

Rev. John Wahl

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*Verset*

Leon Boellmann

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Rise, O Children of Salvation*

Thomas Bliss