

Worship for 10 October 2021  
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

One: Seek good and not evil; seek the Lord and live!

**ALL: May the Lord our God be with us.**

One: Seek good and not evil, that justice may prevail.

**ALL: May the Lord our God show us grace.**

\*Hymn of Invitation #459 – “O Word of God Incarnate”

Prayer of Confession

*God of justice and mercy, we confess that we put ourselves first and trust in things that will not last. We desire the evil and scorn the good; we gather up power and wealth and push aside the needy in our way. O Lord, be gracious to us in spite of our great sin. Teach us to love your justice and share in your mercy. Help us to seek the treasure of heavenly life with you; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

Scripture – Amos 5:6-17, 10-15; Mark 10:17-31 (see reverse)

Reflection – “*Prioritized Life*”

Prayers of the People & 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.*

Offering/Offertory

\*Doxology #606

Affirmation of Faith

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

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

\*Hymn of Thanksgiving #724 – “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Announcements & Blessing

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### **Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

*Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!*

*They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins – you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.*

### **Mark 10:17-31**

*As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandment: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.*

*Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”*

*Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”*

### **#459 – “O Word of God Incarnate”**

1) O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky; we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page, a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

2) The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine; and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine. It is the chart and compass that, all life’s voyage through, amid the rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.

3) O make your church dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold to bear before the nations your true light, as of old; O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace, till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.

*TEXT” William Walsham How, 1867, alt.; public domain.*

*MUSIC: Neuermehrtes Meiningsches Gesangbuch, 1693; adapt. Felix Mendelssohn, 1847; public domain.*

### **#724 – “O Jesus, I Have Promised”**

1) O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend; I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2) O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

3) O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4) O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be. And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

*TEXT” John Ernest Bode, 1866, alt.; public domain.*

*MUSIC: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881; public domain.*