

parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.

³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way.

³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.

⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard

NOTES

his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Sermon Rev. Sharon Carter

Responding in Faith

Affirmation of Faith
Apostles' Creed, ecumenical p.14

The Service of Giving
Prayer of Dedication Offering Music
Response *Gloria Patri* #578

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

Going into the World
+Hymn *Song of Hope* #432
+Charge and Benediction
+Postlude

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church
October 8, 2017

+Stand as you are able
Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold type

Preparing Ourselves
Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Lighting of the Christ candle

+Call to Worship *Psalm 19:7-10*

L: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

P: The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

L: The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

P: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

+Opening Prayer

Let us pray: **Gracious God, you sent your Word to bring us truth and your Spirit to make us holy. Through them we come to know the mystery of your life. Help us to worship you, one God in three persons, by proclaiming and living our faith in you. We pray this in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray together: Our Fa-**

ther in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

+Hymn *Come and Find...* STF2128

Call to Confession

Confession Let us pray: **God of grace, we are undeserving and humble in your presence. We have not lived as you**

What is your view of the “law of the Lord”? Do we today believe in God’s law as “sweeter than honey” and “more desired than fine gold”? Why or why not?

would have us live, or loved as you would have us love. Forgive us our faults and shortcomings and lead us on the path that is the true way of Christ. (moment of silence.)

Assurance of Pardon

L: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

P: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song *Come & Fill Our Hearts* STF2157
The Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Anthem *When We Are Living*
#400— Congregation sings with Choir
Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

In the hearing of your word may we know your will, O God, and be blessed by it. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 5:1-7 Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge

between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Hymn *Come Thou Font...* #356

Matthew 21:33-46 Listen to another

Notice the similarities and differences between the passage from Isaiah and Matthew. What does the vineyard represent in each passage? Who is the “beloved” and the “landowner”? What do these passages say to you today?