

angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and

Notes

you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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* #577

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

Going into the World
+Hymn *Lord, You Have Come* #377
+Charge and Benediction
+Postlude

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church
November 26, 2017
+Stand as you are able
Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ candle

+Call to Worship

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

P: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

L: Know that the Lord is God. It is God that made us, and we are God's; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

P: Enter the God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise. Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

All: For the Lord is good; the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness endure forever.

+Opening Prayer

Let us pray: **Almighty God, you have given us a shepherd who is also a king. Grant to us hearts for loving and revering you as our protector, our sustainer and our redeemer. We pray this in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray together: Our Father 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 *We Will Glorify...* STF2087

Call to Confession

Confession Let us pray: **Merciful God, through your son Jesus Christ we have been shown how to act in his way: by feeding the hungry and thirsty, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, visiting the imprisoned, and welcoming the stranger. Yet we only do what suits us; we think of ourselves first and follow your compassionate way when it fits our schedule. Forgive us, O God, and give us hearts to love as you love and hands to do your work in the world. (moment of silence.)**

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven.

What is your relationship with "the shepherd?" How do you feel about the "fat sheep" being destroyed by the shepherd?

Thanks be to God! Amen.

P: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song *Come & Fill Our Hearts* #2157

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 *With Open Hearts We Are Waiting* - Choplin

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

As we hear your word today, O God, may we find comfort, challenge, and strength for the journey ahead. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 34:11-16 and 20-24 ¹¹For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights

Who is Jesus aligning himself with in the gospel passage? Who do you identify with? If you were to tell the story, whose point of view would you use?

of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice... ²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Hymn *Rejoice the Lord is King* #155

Matthew 25:31-46 ³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the