

Worship for October 24

PRESERVICE MUSIC

*Soon and Very Soon
How Great Thou Art
Here I Am to Worship*

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who are weary.

Lay down your burdens, for God can carry them.

Come, you who are joyful.

Join in God's praise with the choir of the saints.

Come, you who are doubting.

Behold the one who brings sight to the blind.

Come, you who are grateful.

Let us offer our praise to God!

(adapted from Call to Worship Vol. 54.1)

OPENING MUSIC - *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*, Hymn 700

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us. Heal us of our blindness, for we are a people without vision. We close our eyes when faced with suffering in the world, we turn our gaze away from the needs of our neighbors, we refuse to recognize your image in the faces of enemies and friends alike. O Lord, have mercy on us. Grant us vision to look upon the heart, instead of the outward appearance. Heal us of our blindness, and open our eyes to the beauty of your grace.

(adapted from Call to Worship Vol. 54.1)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

HYMN - *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*, Hymn 757, verses 1,2,4

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

Cindy Lee

SCRIPTURE READING - 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

SERMON - *As Mortals See*

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

**ANTHEM - *Honor and Praise*, Twila Paris
Michael Parker, electronic keyboard**

STEWARDSHIP LITANY

Leader: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it (*Ps. 24:1*).

People: We possess nothing, not even ourselves. We are but stewards for our Creator, and all that we have is a gift from God.

Leader: "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked" (*Luke 12:48*).

People: Gracious God, enable us to be good stewards of all your blessings. Help us to use our time, talents, and resources wisely and to your glory.

Leader: Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (*2 Cor. 9:6-7*).

People: Lord, grant us joy in giving. Light a passion in our hearts for building up your body and providing for the work of your kingdom.

Leader: Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine (*Prov. 3:9-10*).

People: Money is not evil unless it leads us away from you, Lord. May we honor you with our wealth and use it for good.

Leader: The Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (*Acts 20:35*).

People: Lord Jesus, we celebrate the new life we have in you. It is a life filled with love and grace! We dedicate these pledges to the building of your kingdom and ask that you would bless them to the work of your church. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Adapted from Rev. Richard King First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown, Iowa)

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Ushers will bring offering baskets to the congregation where they are seated to collect pledge cards and loose offerings.

Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN - God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending, Hymn 716

BENEDICTION