

RAMSEY MEMORIAL UMC
August 16, 2020 at 10am
11th Sunday after Pentecost
United by the Spirit through Technology

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and his righteousness,
and all these things
shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

#405

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and the door shall be
opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Special Music

Scripture

Luke 16:1-13

(New Revised Standard Version)

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.'
Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'
So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'
He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.'
He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'
Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?'
He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.'
He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'
And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.
And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.
"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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Scripture

Luke 16:1-13

(New Living Translation)

Parable of the Shrewd Manager

Jesus told this story to his disciples:

"There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs.

One day a report came that the manager was wasting his employer's money.

So the employer called him in and said,

'What's this I hear about you? Get your report in order, because you are going to be fired.'

"The manager thought to himself, 'Now what? My boss has fired me.

I don't have the strength to dig ditches, and I'm too proud to beg.

Ah, I know how to ensure that I'll have plenty of friends

who will give me a home when I am fired.'

"So he invited each person who owed money to his employer to come and discuss the situation.

He asked the first one, 'How much do you owe him?'

The man replied, 'I owe him 800 gallons of olive oil.'

So the manager told him, 'Take the bill and quickly change it to 400 gallons.'

"'And how much do you owe my employer?'" he asked the next man.

'I owe him 1,000 bushels of wheat,' was the reply.

'Here,' the manager said, 'take the bill and change it to 800 bushels.'

"The rich man had to admire the dishonest rascal for being so shrewd.

And it is true that the children of this world are more shrewd

in dealing with the world around them than are the children of the light.

Here's the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends.

Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones.

But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities.

And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth,

who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?

And if you are not faithful with other people's things,

why should you be trusted with things of your own?

"No one can serve two masters.

For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other.

You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money."

Sermon

Story Time - Using Money

Rev. Claudia Stallings

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever AMEN

Consecrating Our Tithes & Offerings

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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Hymn

Unsettled World

Unsettled world, where people long
to find their way, to feel secure,
from lives of turbulence and rush
we come, to seek your peace,
our God,
your word to hear, our faith to live.

Unsettled world, where money rules
and greedy systems call the tune;
for strength
to keep our values straight
we come, with trust in you, O God,
your word to hear, our faith to live.

#2183

Unsettled world, where angry poor
from grinding need
at affluence stare,
with tears and thirst for truth and right
we come, with longing in our hearts,
your word to hear, our faith to live.

Unsettled world, unsettled church,
whose structures creak
and doctrines swirl,
by faith, and in the strength of Christ,
we strive, in true community,
our word to hear, our faith to live.

Benediction