Upper St. Croix Parish Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls September 27th, 2020 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

This bulletin is for both in-church and drive-in service (outdoor). *please rise as you are able.

PRELUDE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

The passing of the Peace is a time to briefly greet your family members with the peace of Christ. "Peace be with You!"

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

*CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive Enter with conscious intent into the presence of God; the Almighty looks on us with compassion and favor.

Let all the people tremble before the Holy One; let the earthquake before god, who reigns over all. The glory of God surrounds us day by day; our Creator is gracious and merciful.

Let us praise God's great and terrible name!

Let us proclaim God's justice and equity. God is at work in us and in all people; the Sovereign One has gifted us with Jesus Christ.

Let our minds be shaped by the mind of Christ. Let our service follow the patterns Jesus taught. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** This is My Song UMH 437 (vs. 1 & 3)

OPENING PRAYER Unison

O God, how shall we know you? How can we experience your presence with us? Do you really know our names and care about each one of us? If we have found favor in your sight, how will that be known? We cannot see you with our eyes or hear your voice with our ears. Speak to us in language our souls can receive. Enlighten our inner being, that joy may radiate in our actions. Work in and among us, that we may glimpse your pleasure for all humanity. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

(Children may stay with their parents for safety reasons.)

Proclamation of God's Word

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 21:23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATIONTrust and ObeyUMH 467 (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

SERMON *"What is Your Choice?"* **Pastor Jenny Lee** (If you are not able to join us for Service, one of your family members may read the written sermon.)

We Respond to God's Word

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

When you address us, O God, keep us from turning away. When we make commitments, help us to follow through. When our actions condemn us, recall us to yourself and grant us a new heart and a new spirit. We open ourselves to your work among us and through each one of us. Show us your glory and grant us to partake of your goodness. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS PASTORAL PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS **UMH 95** *DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison

Gracious God, we put these gifts, our times and talents before you to work in your vineyard. Grant to us the capacity to move beyond good intentions to give ourselves completely to the purpose of your realm. Amen.

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

UMH 338 (vs. 1 & 4) ***HYMN** Where He Leads Me **Pastor Jenny Lee**

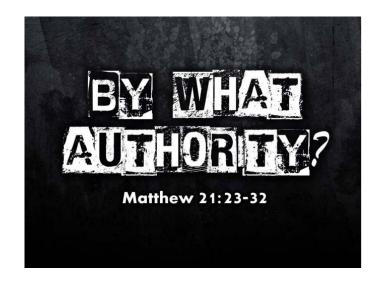
***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Upper St. Croix Parish

ONE Parish THREE Churches: Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls

September 27th, 2020 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



The United Methodist Church

8:15 am: In-Door Service at Central-Grantsburg 10:00 am: Drive -In-Service at Atlas Park

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