

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

The First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm

Psalm 138

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.

2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise
your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;

3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my
enemies; your right hand shall save me.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

The Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to
the glory of God by Claire Renzetti & Brad Tidwell
in celebration of Shelby Tidwell's birthday*

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Jerry Ritchie
 4th: Harper Martin
 7th: Pete Litterski
 13th: Donna Richardson
 14th: Margie Litterski
 20th: Ella Cammack
 22nd: Monika Henry
 22nd: Connor Tucker
 23rd: Kristel Morris
 27th: Stefanie Kirschke
 29th: Paige Lindsey

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, September 3, 2023

9:00 am Bible Study

10:00am Holy Eucharist

11:30 am Confirmation Class

Piney Woods ECW September Luncheon

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 314 Henderson Blvd. Kilgore, Texas 75662 on **Saturday, September 16**

The event will begin at 10:00am. Fee: \$10 due by **Sept 9**

Text Sherry Lockman or Liz Garrison for info

903-649-1253 or 903-431-6198

Mail \$10 to St Paul's ECW (address above)

Venmo \$10 to: @Sherry-Lockman (please make sure we know who you are)

New Pictorial Directory for 2023

LAST SUNDAY, Christina will be in the church office to take you and/or your family's picture every Sunday during August either before the service or after the service. She will also have a clipboard for you to verify or update your contact information. If you would like to send your own picture, use same photo from two years ago, or updated your contact information, please e-mail her at christina@smaalongview.org.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate the flowers for the service, the Flower Dedication forms for 2022 are in the narthex.

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Javier Glave

Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown

Danny's Team: Melinda Smith

Eucharistic Ministers: Becky Supercinski

Greeter: Becky Supercinski

Lector: Javier Galve

Nursery Helper: Carolyn Deakins

Ushers: Jerry Ritchie

Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Susan Brown

Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Ed Maxwell
- Patti Maxwell
- Andrew McWhorter
- Chris and Penny Nicholson
- Terry Lewis for diabetes & neuropathy
- The Akinson & Brown Family
- Lorraine, Pete and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
07/30/23	\$1,170	\$2,939	-\$1,769
08/06/23	\$3,098	\$2,939	\$159
08/13/23	\$4,465	\$2,939	\$1,526
08/20/23	\$7,394	\$2,939	\$4,455
YTD TOTALS	\$115,030	\$99,921	\$15,109

Next Sunday's Servers (09/03)

Acolytes: Norah Lindsey

Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse

Danny's Team: Stan Williams

Eucharistic Ministers: Laura Buckner

Greeter: Susan Kuhlman

Lector: Melinda Smith

Nursery Helper: Roxanne Brink

Ushers: David Brown

Vestry People: Tommy Smith, Roxanne Brink

Worship Tech: Amy Brown

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll

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Church Website: smaalongview.org

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