

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B June 27, 2021

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Hope in God. Expect miracles. For with God, anything is possible!

***SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 18:1-15**

*** OPENING HYMN: 452.....My Faith Looks Up to Thee (vs 1,2&4)**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We call to the Lord,

People: and God hears our prayers.

Leader: We lift up our praise,

People: and God hears our songs.

Leader: We wait for the Lord,

People: and God answers our hope.

*** Let us pray (Congregation):**

God of wondrous love, your miracles always catch us by surprise. When our time of blessing comes, may we laugh with Sarah and dance with Abraham.

When our bodies are touched by your healing grace, may we bow before your throne of glory.

Come to us now, as we gather to worship, that we might be touched by your Spirit and made whole by your grace. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

419.....I Am Thine, O Lord (1,2&4)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

Holy One, be with us in our weakness.

When we laugh out of fear, calm us with your courage.

When we laugh out of doubt, empower us with your faith.

When we laugh out of our confusion, guide us with your wisdom.

Transform our nervous laughter into songs of praise and shouts of joy and trust.

In your blessed name, we pray. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

378 Amazing Grace (vs 1,2,4&6)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (GEN 12:2 NRSV)

In God's faithfulness, we are made well.

In Christ's love, we discover righteousness and peace.

In the Spirit's sustaining power,

we find strength for the journey.

Thanks be to God.

***SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 5:1-9**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "Spiritual Calisthenics"

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 706 Soon and Very Soon**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns`

Let us pray: **The Lord's Prayer**

*** PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

*** CLOSING HYMN: # 98..... To God Be the Glory**

*** DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1st Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:1-15 (NKJV)

18 Then the LORD appeared to him by ^[a]the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. **2** So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw *them*, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, **3** and said, “My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. **4** Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. **5** And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant.”

They said, “Do as you have said.”

6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead *it* and make cakes.” **7** And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave *it* to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. **8** So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set *it* before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.

9 Then they said to him, “Where *is* Sarah your wife?”

So he said, “Here, in the tent.”

10 And He said, “I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.”

(Sarah was listening in the tent door which *was* behind him.) **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; *and* ^[b]Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. **12** Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?”

13 And the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear a *child*, since I am old?’ **14** Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”

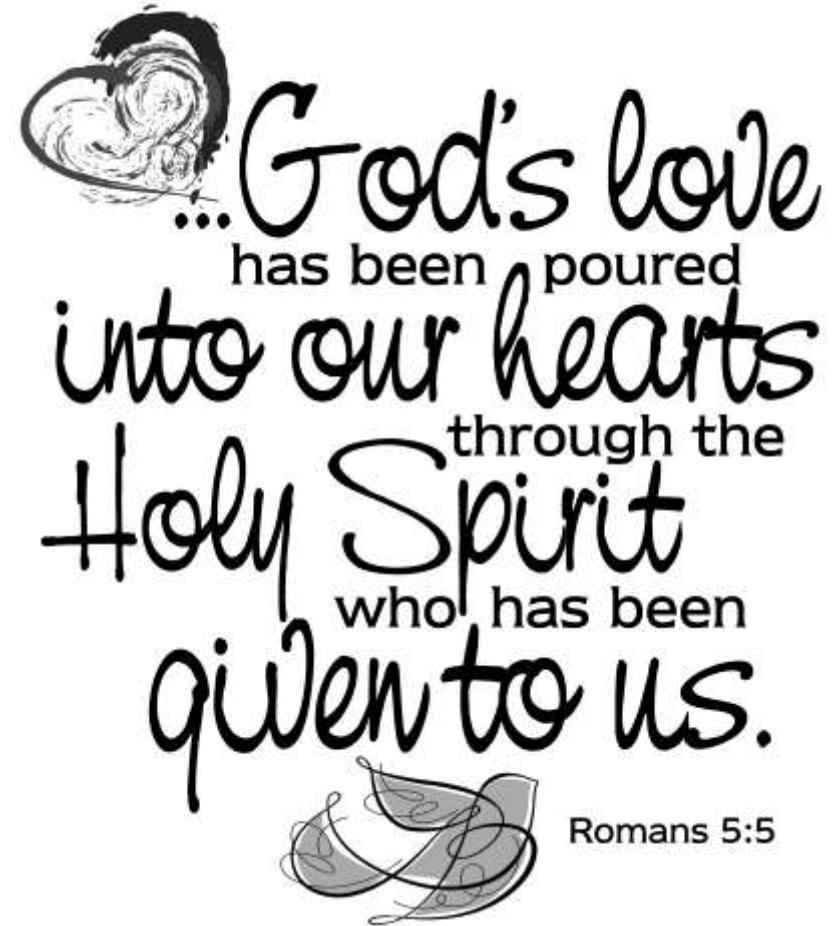
15 But Sarah denied *it*, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid.

And He said, “No, but you did laugh!”

2nd Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1-9 (NKJV)

5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, ^[a]we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **3** And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces ^[b]perseverance; **4** and perseverance, ^[c]character; and character, hope. **5** Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

6 For when we were still without strength, ^[d]in due time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.



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