



Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church

7th Sunday after Pentecost, Year C
3 July 2016 at 10:45

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Prelude

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, welcome home, children of God. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 95)*

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

O come, let us sing, let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

The Lord is a great God who holds the depths of the earth, the heights of the mountains, the sea and the dry land.

O come, let us worship the Lord, our God and our Creator.

We are God's people, and God cares for us.

Let us worship the Lord, Creator and Lover of us all.

†Hymn 331: God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

†The Peace

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

So let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE WORD + + +

†Prayer for Illumination (Hymn #452)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;

*I want to see you; I want to see you; (**repeat**)*

to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

Scripture reading: *Selected verses from Judges 4-5*

After Ehud had died, the Israelites again did things that the Lord saw as evil. So the Lord gave them over to King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera. The Israelites cried out to the Lord because Sisera had nine hundred iron chariots and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly for twenty years.

Now Deborah, a prophet, was a leader of Israel at that time. She would sit under Deborah's palm tree between Ramah and Bethel and the Israelites would come to her to settle disputes. She sent word to Barak, and said to him, "Hasn't the Lord, Israel's God, issued you a command? 'Go and assemble at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand men from the people of Naphtali and Zebulun with you. I'll lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, to assemble with his chariots and troops against you at the Kishon River, and then I'll help you overpower him.'"

Barak replied to her, "If you'll go with me, I'll go; but if not, I won't go."

Deborah answered, "I'll definitely go with you. However, the path you're taking won't bring honor to you, because the Lord will hand over Sisera to a woman." Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. He summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand men marched out behind him. Deborah marched out with him too.

When it was reported to Sisera that Barak had marched up to Mount Tabor, Sisera summoned all of his nine hundred iron chariots and all of the soldiers who were with him to the Kishon River. Then Deborah said to Barak, "Get up! This is the day that the Lord has handed Sisera over to you." So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men behind him. The Lord threw Sisera and all the chariots and army into a panic before Barak; Sisera himself got down from his chariot and fled on foot. Barak pursued the chariots and the army, killing Sisera's entire army with the sword. No one survived.

Meanwhile, Sisera had fled on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite. Jael went out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Come in, sir, come in here. Don't be afraid." So he went with her into the tent, and she hid him under a blanket.

Sisera said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink. I'm thirsty." So she opened a jug of milk, gave him a drink, and hid him again. Then he said to

her, "Stand at the entrance to the tent. That way, if someone comes and asks you, 'Is there a man here?' you can say, 'No.'"

But Jael picked up a tent stake and a hammer. While Sisera was sound asleep from exhaustion, she tiptoed to him. She drove the stake through his head and down into the ground, and he died. Just then, Barak arrived after chasing Sisera. Jael went out to meet him and said, "Come and I'll show you the man you're after." So he went in with her, and there was Sisera, lying dead, with the stake through his head.

At that time, Deborah and Barak, Abinoam's son, sang:

May Jael be blessed above all women; may the wife of Heber the Kenite be blessed above all tent-dwelling women. He asked for water, and she provided milk; she presented him cream in a majestic bowl. She reached out her hand for the stake, her strong hand for the worker's hammer.

She struck Sisera; she crushed his head; she shattered and pierced his skull. At her feet he sank, fell, and lay flat; at her feet he sank, he fell; where he sank, there he fell—dead.

Through the window she watched, Sisera's mother looked longingly through the lattice. "Why is his chariot taking so long to come? Why are the hoofbeats of his chariot horses delayed?"

May all your enemies perish like this, Lord! But may your allies be like the sun, rising in its strength. And the land was peaceful for forty years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

Time with Children

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Brian Wyatt

†Hymn 339: Lift Every Voice and Sing

†Prayers of the People

Lord, we stand today as our ancestors have stood before You in times gone by, celebrating our history and acknowledging our anxiety about the future. We gather here praying for your wisdom to govern our leaders and the decisions they have to make. We pray that, like Deborah, they would be willing to undertake the difficult work of putting the wellbeing and the future of the people ahead of their own personal comfort or gain.

For those times we as a nation and people we have not always chosen the right way, we ask your forgiveness. For those times when we have not been a good neighbor to others around the world, we ask your forgiveness and theirs. Remind us this weekend as we celebrate our nation's independence that we do not exist independent of one another or of you. We depend on your grace where we have fallen short, and on your wisdom to guide our future.

We ask your favor to be upon every nation, but also this day to shine upon those we love, especially...

By the power of your Holy Spirit, breathe new life into our nation, into our community. Breathe new life into this church, Lord, that we might see with clarity the tasks to which you call us. May our lives and our church reflect your prayer that justice flow like a river and righteousness like a never failing stream. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. One God, now and for all eternity. Amen.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST + + +

Offering

Jesus has taught us not to store up treasures for ourselves, but to be rich toward God—for where our treasures are, there will our hearts be also. With gratitude for God's grace, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

†Doxology (Hymn #1, v.4)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Grain is gathered from the field; threshed and milled for flour.

We are formed from the grain of God's harvest.

Flour is mixed with water to produce basic dough.

The water of baptism unites us.

Yeast is added to transform the mixture.

The vision of God's realm draws us onwards.

Oil softens the dough and makes a new texture.

The Holy Spirit anoints us as the body of Christ.

A little salt improves the taste.

Jesus calls us to be the salt of the earth.

The bread is kneaded and shaped, molded and baked.

It is God who makes us a holy communion.

Grapes are harvested and crushed for juice.

You are the vine, we are the branches, O Christ.

Juice and skins are mixed with yeast for fermentation.

God's reign is coming. God's hope is here.

There is a time of waiting; then a time of pressing.

God's new life presses forth through the sediment of our lives.

And finally, the feast is here!

Let us celebrate the feast of our life in God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you draw and welcome us, emptied of pride and hungry for grace, to this your kingdom feast. Nowhere can we find the food for which our souls cry out but here, Lord at your table. Invigorate and nourish us, good Lord, that in and through this Bread and Wine your love may meet us and your life complete us in the power and glory of your kingdom. Amen

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

*Lord Jesus Christ, as we have proclaimed your death by eating this bread and drinking this cup, help us to wait for you, to wish for you, and to watch for you, so that when you come again you will find us ready. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

+ + + SENDING + + +

†Hymn 337: My Country, 'Tis of Thee

†Charge and Blessing

The Spirit of God is upon you and has anointed you.

You are the salt of the earth and you bring light to the world.

You are not too young or too old,

you are not too wealthy or too poor

to bring good news to the impoverished,

to give a hand to the broken-hearted,

and to live out freedom and pardon

through the gifts you have been given.

So go forth from this place in peace,

*Carrying hope, Walking in love.
Do not be frightened, for you are never alone.
The God in whose image you are made
will walk with you and guide you today, tomorrow, and every day.*

†Congregational Response

*May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back;
May the sun shine warmly on your face;
May the rain fall softly on your fields;
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.*

Postlude

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

Announcements

Five Cents a Meal Offering will be received this morning, and the first Sunday of each month. Please give generously to this offering which goes directly to hunger ministries in our community and around the world.

This Week at TRPC

Wednesday, 6 July	8 th Sunday after Pentecost (10 July)	Food Bank & Samaritan's Purse (July)
No midweek activities	Judges 6:1-14 (The story of Gideon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powdered Milk (FB) • Small toys and stuffed animals (SP)

Worship Leadership

Date	Acolyte	Usher	Communion
3 July	Wallace W	Kenton C & Charlie H	Zelma E
10 July	Kenton C	Gary M & Charlie H	N/A
17 July	Blair S	Doyle W & Charlie H	N/A
24 July	Wallace W	Ken P & Charlie H	N/A
31 July	Kenton C	Will E & Charlie H	N/A