16 June 1999; 3rd Week after Pentecost Chaplain Jeff Bauer (BSA Unit 71 Macungie)

Sponsored by: St. Paul's U. C. C., Trexlertown, PA **Guests**: Cub Scouts

St. John's U. C. C., Emmaus, PA

Pack 71

Solomons U. C. C., Macungie, PA

Music: Steven Ziminsky - St. Paul's U. C. C. Minister of Music

Hymn (P. 26): "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Introductions and Greeting

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation (Chaplain): God of all creation, help us to recognize your presence among us. May we greet one another as your precious children and as messengers of your care. Help us offer such hospitality to one another that even the most skeptical among us will be touched by love. You are love; in you we find hope amid our weakness and doubt. Let your glory shine in this place today as we lift up the cup of salvation and call on your name. Amen.

INVITATION (Chaplain): This table welcomes all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table, then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (All):

0 lover of our souls, we come today confessing our confusion and helplessness. We run about seeking comfort and peace in material things and empty habits. Forgive us, shepherd, for ignoring your guidance. Help us remember that you and you alone have the gifts of life and joy to give us. Heal our emptiness and stop our destructive and desperate search for things to replace you. We, your wandering sheep, thank you for your compassion. May we live knowing your love for us. Amen.

Epistle Lesson - Romans 5:1-8

- 1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.
- 3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;
- 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.
- 5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.
- 6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.
- 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die.
- 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Gospel Lesson - Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-15)

- 35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.
- 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.
- 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."
- 10:1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.
- 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;
- 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- 4 Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.
- 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans.
- 6 Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.
- 7 As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'
- 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.
- 9 Do not take along any gold or silver or copper in your belts;
- 10 take no bag for the journey, or extra tunic, or sandals or a staff; for the worker is worth his keep.
- 11 "Whatever town or village you enter, search for some worthy person there and stay at his house until you leave.
- 12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting.
- 13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.
- 14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that home or town.
- 15 I tell you the truth, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Commissioning (*Chaplain*):

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house.

May your light so shine before all people, that they may see your good works and give glory to God who is in heaven.

Benediction (*Chaplain*):

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Hymn (P. 97): "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Depart and Serve God with Joy

Today's Scripture Lessons

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 12:1-9

- 1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.
- 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
- 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
- 4 So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.
- 5 He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.
- 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.
- 7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.
- 8 From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.
- 9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

Prayer of Mercy - Kyrie Eleison

Chaplain Lord, Have mercy upon us

People Lord, Have mercy upon us

Chaplain Christ, Have mercy upon us.

People Christ, Have mercy upon us.

Chaplain Lord, Have mercy upon us

People Lord, Have mercy upon us

Assurance of Pardon:

Chaplain: Beloved, God has promised us mercy and has given us Jesus Christ, to die for our sins that we may live in newness of life, obedient to God's will. Therefore, I announce, in the name of Christ, that our sins are forgiven according to God's promises in the gospel

All - Amen

Gloria Patri (P. 623):

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end Amen, Amen.

Collect: Let us pray.

God of all nations, by whose word the heavens were made and in whose dominion the universe continues to expand, stretch our thinking in this time of reflection, refresh us as your rain waters the earth, and restore our strength that we might live faithfully according to your promises. Give us courage to trust even when the odds seem against us and to live truthfully even when challenged and attacked, that our witness might be helpful to others on life's journey. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Lesson:

Lesson 1 Genesis 12:1-9
Epistle Lesson Romans 5:1-8

Gospel Lesson Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-15)

Pastoral Prayer

Confession of Faith (The Apostles' Creed):

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of the Saints; The forgiveness of Sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the Life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION PRAYER:

Chaplain - The Lord be with you.

People - And also with you

Chaplain - Lift up your hearts

People - We lift them up unto the Lord.

Chaplain - Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

People - It is meet and right so to do.

(Chaplain)

Holy God, we praise and bless you for the creation and the gift of life and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share our common suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those who Jesus loved. We rejoice that in perfect victory over the grave, you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

(All:) Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Come, Holy Spirit, bless these consecrated elements of bread and wine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize that risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

(All) - In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.

Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ Gives.

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

Our Father, who 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS: Come for all things are ready.

(Chaplain and Elders will distribute the Communion Elements)
Our Savior Jesus Christ keep and preserve you to everlasting Life.

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Let us pray:

(All:) We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.