



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
SERVICE LEAFLET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 14, 2018

The Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proper 23

* PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 22:1–15

L: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?

P: O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest.

L: Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

P: Our forebears put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.

L: They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

P: But as for me, I am a worm, and less than human, scorned by all and despised by the people.

L: All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying<

P: “You trusted in God for deliverance; let God rescue you, if God delights in you.”

L: Yet you, O God, are the one who took me out of the womb and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.

P: I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;

you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.

L: Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

P: Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

L: They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion.

P: I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.

L: My mouth is dried out like a pot–sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth,

P: and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

THE FIRST READING

Job 23:1–9

Then Job answered: “Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

“If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

THE SECOND READING

Mark 10:17–31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

HOMILY

“Possibilities”

Rev. Ahrens

MISSION INVITATION

Cash and designated checks go to **Laundry Love**. The children and youth of First Church invite you to join them in this continuing mission project. Laundry Love is an initiative in partnership with individuals, groups and local laundromats throughout the country to wash the clothes and bedding of individuals and/or families living in poverty. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN 531

God, speak to me

Canonbury

Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve for more information and a QR link.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *celebrant*The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*Tom Stewart, *pianist*Alejandro Rodriguez, *liturgist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

Liturgist: Cori Rowley

Communion Preparation & Refreshments: Denise Vogt