**Order of Worship**

**August 16, 2020**

**Meditation -** Psalm 59:10

My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.

**Songs of Adoration**

**Call to Worship -** Psalm 71:1-8

In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me! Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother’s womb. My praise is continually of you. I have been as a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge. My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Confession of Sin**

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us, that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength we may seek Your face and be brought by Your infinite mercy to Your holy presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(by Alcuin of York)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing. *(Zephaniah 3:17)*

**Songs of Worship**

**Offering and Doxology**

**New Testament Reading –** John 15:13-17

**13**Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **14**You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15**No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. **16**You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **17**These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

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**Announcements**

**Song of Preparation**

**Sermon -** “Friend or Foe”

**Sermon Text -** Genesis 32:1-21; Genesis 33:1-20

Genesis 32:1-21 -

Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. **2**And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God's camp!” So he called the name of that place Mahanaim.**3**And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother in the land of Seir, the country of Edom, **4**instructing them, “Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob,

‘I have sojourned with Laban and stayed until now. **5**I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.’” **6**And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are four hundred men with him.” **7**Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed. He divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and herds and camels, into two camps, **8**thinking, “If Esau comes to the one camp and attacks it, then the camp that is left will escape.” **9**And Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,’ **10**I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. **11**Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children. **12**But you said, ‘I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.’” **13**So he stayed there that night, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau, **14**two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, **15**thirty milking camels and their calves, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. **16**These he handed over to his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, “Pass on ahead of me and put a space between drove and drove.” **17**He instructed the first, “When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, ‘To whom do you belong? Where are you going? And whose are these ahead of you?’ **18**then you shall say, ‘They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a present sent to my lord Esau. And moreover, he is behind us.’” **19**He likewise instructed the second and the third and all who followed the droves, “You shall say the same thing to Esau when you find him, **20**and you shall say, ‘Moreover, your servant Jacob is behind us.’” For he thought, “I may appease him with the present that goes ahead of me, and afterward I shall see his face. Perhaps he will accept me.” **21**So the present passed on ahead of him, and he himself stayed that night in the camp.

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Genesis 33:1-20 –

And Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau was coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two female servants. **2**And he put the servants with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. **3**He himself went on before them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. **4**But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. **5**And when Esau lifted up his eyes and saw the women and children, he said, “Who are these with you?” Jacob said, “The children whom God has graciously given your servant.” **6**Then the servants drew near, they and their children, and bowed down. **7**Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down. And last Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. **8**Esau said, “What do you mean by all this company that I met?” Jacob answered, “To find favor in the sight of my lord.” **9**But Esau said, “I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself.” **10**Jacob said, “No, please, if I have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand. For I have seen your face, which is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. **11**Please accept my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough.” Thus he urged him, and he took it. **12**Then Esau said, “Let us journey on our way, and I will go ahead of you.” **13**But Jacob said to him, “My lord knows that the children are frail, and that the nursing flocks and herds are a care to me. If they are driven hard for one day, all the flocks will die. **14**Let my lord pass on ahead of his servant, and I will lead on slowly, at the pace of the livestock that are ahead of me and at the pace of the children, until I come to my lord in Seir.” **15**So Esau said, “Let me leave with you some of the people who are with me.” But he said, “What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord.” **16**So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. **17**But Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built himself a house and made booths for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.**18**And Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, on his way from Paddan-aram, and he camped before the city. **19**And from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, he bought for a hundred pieces of money the piece of land on which he had pitched his tent. **20**There he erected an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel.

**Song of Response**

**Benediction**

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