

A LITANY OF CONFESSION BASED ON MARK 7:20-23

Almighty and most merciful God, our heavenly Father,  
shine the light of your Holy upon us and within us,  
that we may see what you see,  
turn away from all actions and attitudes that pollute our hearts  
that bring pain and shame upon ourselves, scandal to your church,  
and increased misery to our world.

For the misuse of our bodies in immorality, adultery, and all forms of indecency.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For taking what does not belong to us and thinking we have a right to it.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For murderous and angry thoughts, from which great crimes may arise.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For desiring what you have not given,  
and for taking delight in another's misfortune.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For deliberate acts of malice, and for hidden acts that contribute to the weight of sin.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For using words to deceive rather than to illumine the truth,  
and for spinning things to put us in a better light.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For the sins of stinginess and greed,  
which show how little we comprehend your great and continuing generosity.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For slander,  
for speaking ill of public officials rather than praying for them,  
for gossip which is both and lack of courage and courtesy,  
and for misusing your holy name.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For sinning as the devil did in pride  
and for arrogantly imagining life would be better  
if we ran the world without your holy and inescapable presence.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

For the sin of foolishness as it shows itself in self-indulgence,  
lack of self-control,  
and moral blindness to the consequences of our own actions.  
Lord, in your mercy. Forgive our sin and heal our hearts.

(Silence is kept for personal confession. Pardon is announced.)

“FRONT PORCH WORSHIP”

First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

Sunday August 2, 2020, 9:00am

Bring your chairs. Wear a mask. Love with Social Distance

“The mission of First United Methodist Church  
is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.”

ENTRANCE

Gathering of the People in Front of the Church, Prelude

Welcome and Silence . . . . . Pastor Phil Thrailkill, Interim Minister

+Greeting . . . . . Trinitarian Greeting, The Commandments of God

Blessed be God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

“God spoke from the mountain and said:

‘I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me’.”

**Almighty God, write your law upon our hearts.**

“You shall not make for yourself an idol.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.”

**Almighty God, write your law upon our hearts.**

“Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness.

You shall not covet... anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

**Almighty God, write your law upon our hearts.**

“Jesus said, ‘The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,**

**with all your mind and with all your strength.**

The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself.

**There is no other commandment greater than these.”**

+Mutual Blessing and Prayer: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray...

Testimonies to God's Grace . . . . . All Have a Voice!

What did you do with last week's challenge: 1) Self-examination? 2) Thanks to a city leader?

United Methodist Teaching on Sin and Evil . . . . . *The Book of Discipline 2016: 65-72* (selected)

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

Sermon Lesson . . . . . Mark 7:14-23

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Dr. Jesus’ Radical Diagnosis” . . . . . Pastor Phil Thrailkill, Interim Minister

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

Silence with the Word of God

Litany of Confession and Pardon based on Mark 7:20-23

+Dismissal with Blessing, and Offerings . . . . . Theodore Burns: Usher

MARK 7:14-23  
 "DR. JESUS GIVES A RADICAL DIAGNOSIS"

7:2 Unwashed Hands Issue, Jesus Touched Lepers/The Dead

2) vv. 14-15 JESUS SPEAKS TO CROWD ON KOSHER FOOD LAWS, IMPURITY.

Expansion Of 7:6b-7, Is. Quote: Lips/Heart Contrast

a) v.14 Audience: People/ Call to Hear and Understand.

Hear Me, Double Appeal, Jesus' Authority To Interpret Scripture

And he called the people to him again, and said to them, **Calls Larger Audience To Himself, Listen To Me!**  
 "Hear me, all of you, and understand: Solemn, 4:3, 9, 12; 6:52; 8:17, 21 Call To Hear, Move To Insider Status  
 Jesus Speaks For God; Oral Tradition Twisted Torah

b) v.15a Outside to Inside is Not a Problem. Jesus As Authority, Issue= Kosher Food Laws  
 Punch Line! Foundation For Mission To Gentiles (7:24-37)

there is nothing outside a man which by going in can defile him; **What Counts As Holiness Before God?**  
 Ritual/Moral/Spiritual Pollution, Rejects Lev. 11-15, 17:15, Dt. 12 Food Laws!

c) v.15b Inside to Outside is a Problem. v. 15 = One Of Jesus' Most Radical Words  
 Radical vs. Pharisaic Holiness Piety, Way Of Life  
 but the things which come out of a man are what defile him." Original/Actual Sin,

We Are Toxic, Spew Poison From Inside As Excretions  
 It Is Not The Good That Requires Accounting For But The Evil

2') vv.17-23 JESUS SPEAKS TO DISCIPLES ON KOSHER FOOD LAWS.

Question = What Counts As Holiness? What Alienates? Not What You Touch!

a) vv.17-18a Audience: Disciples/ Call to Hear and Understand.

And when he had entered the house, **Typical Place For Teaching For Disciples (3:20, 9:28, 33, 10:10)**  
 and left the people,  
 his disciples asked him about the parable. **Riddle/Comparison/Figure Of Speech, vv.14-15**  
 And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding?" **v.14b, Rebuke, 4:13, 7:18, 8:17-21, 10:38**  
**Rabbis Concerned About Interior Of Vessels, Not Flat Surfaces**

b) vv.18b-19 Outside to Inside is Not a Problem. **Heart Does Not = Stomach**  
 Sets Aside Law, Lev. 11:2-47, Dt. 14:3-21, 20:24b-26 (Separation)

Do you not see that whatever goes into a man from the outside cannot defile him, **Acts 10, Rom. 14:14**  
 since it enters, not his HEART but his stomach, and so passes on?" **Radical, Somewhat Crass Explanation**  
 (cleansing all foods) **A Joke? But No People Are! Rom. 14:14, Acts 10:28 (3xRevelation To Peter)**  
**Food Laws No Longer Divide Pious Jews From Pagans**

c) vv.20-23 Inside to Outside is a Problem: Extended Commentary.

Heart = Center (Impulse/Thought/ Emotion) Righteousness = True Holiness, Hos. 6:6

And he said, **Sinful Heart = Gen. 6:5, 8:21, Ps. 5:21, 66:18, 78:18**  
 "What comes out of a man is what DEFILES a man (woman). **Defilement Still An Issue**  
**From Heart Comes Unfathomable Evil!**

For FROM WITHIN, out of the HEART of man, **Center Of Loyalty, Decisional Self**  
 come evil devisings": **Impulses/ Intentions, Category = Twisted Passions**  
 (\*)Ten Commandments, (+)Seven Deadly Sins/Fruits

→ 3 **acts of fornication,**<sup>+</sup> (sex outside heterosexual marriage, pagans) **[6/7Actions]**  
 acts of theft<sup>+</sup>, (robberies, disregard of property rights)  
 acts of murder<sup>+</sup>, (unlawfully taking a life)  
 acts of adultery<sup>+</sup>,<sup>+</sup> (intercourse with a married person, violate covenant)  
 acts of coveting<sup>+</sup>,<sup>+</sup> (greedy desire for another's goods/spouse, avarice)  
 acts of wickedness, (deliberate malice, lack of moral/social values)

→ 3' **deceit\*,** (lie, cunning and treachery, fraud) **[6/7 Attitudes]**  
**licentiousness,**<sup>+</sup> (indecent, unbridled desire, lewdness, no restraint)  
 envy,<sup>+</sup> (lit. evil eye, stinginess, grudging jealousy)  
 slander\*, (evil tongue, railing others, blasphemy to God)  
 pride,<sup>+</sup> (arrogance, haughtiness, inflated self)  
 foolishness. (moral and spiritual insensitivity, reject God, folly)

→ 2' All these evil things come from WITHIN, **Each Destroys Community, Philo = 150 Items, //1QS 4:9-11**  
**Evil = Inspired By Powers Other Than God, All Are Impure**  
**No Blame, Impossible To Avoid, Need Jesus' Cleansing Power**

→ 1' and they DEFILE the man (person). **Ritual Purity Replaced By Radical Ethical Purity**  
**Prophetic Protest, Amos 5:21-57; Hos. 6:6, Is. 1:11-17, Micah 6:8, Defiled = Unfit To Approach God**

14

15

17

18

19

(Mk. Footnote)

20

21

6 Plural Nouns: Do

porneiai  
 |  
 phonoi  
 |  
 pleonexia  
 ponereai

22

6 Singular Nouns: Feel

23

THE TEACHING OF THE U.M. ARTICLES OF RELIGION ON SIN & EVIL

(The Book of Discipline 2016: 65-72 [selected])

Article VII—Of Original or Birth Sin **(We enter the world as rebels against God with a bent to evil)**

Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

Article VIII—Of Free Will **(Sinners cannot turn to God on their own, but only with God's constant help)**

The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

Article IX—Of the Justification of Man **(We make no addition to the grounds of salvation; we only trust)**

We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith, only, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

Article X—Of Good Works **(The goods works that follow faith as its fruit have no power to remove sin)**

Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgment; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

Article XI—Of Works of Supererogation **(You cannot do more than God requires or put God in debt)**

Voluntary works—besides, over and above God's commandments—which they call works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required; whereas Christ saith plainly: When you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unprofitable servants.'

Article XII—Of Sin After Justification **(Those who fall into sin may- by God's grace- turn back to God)**

Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification. After we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

Article XX—Of the One Oblation of Christ, Finished upon the Cross **(Christ alone is sufficient for sin)**

The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

Of Sanctification **(It is expected that we grow in Christ as the power of sin is broken and cancelled)**

Sanctification is that renewal of our fallen nature by the Holy Ghost, received through faith in Jesus Christ, whose blood of atonement cleanseth from all sin;

**3 Dimensions Of Cleansing From Sin**

- (-) whereby we are not only delivered from the guilt of sin, **Sin as objective guilt. Delivered. (1)**  
 but are washed from its pollution (i.e. its defilement, stain), **Sin as corruption. Washed. (2)**  
 saved from its power, **Sin as an alien and potent personal force. Saved. (3)**
- (+) and are enabled, through grace, **God strengthen us in grace to love and walk in a new life.**  
 to love God with all our hearts and to walk in his holy commandments blameless. **Love & Live!**