



12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 2023

10:00 am

GATHERING MUSIC

Maria Conner

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

* all who are able are invited to rise in body or spirit.

Bold indicates congregational response.

Hymnals are available if you like to read notes.

CALL TO WORSHIP* *(from Psalm 85)*

God has forgiven us and drawn us close, reconciling us through Jesus Christ, who has lavished upon us the fullness of the blessed Holy Spirit.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise the Lord!

HYMN*

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

310

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION (UNISON)

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus! We are tormented by our own devilish desires and exploits We are anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy. Forgive us, we pray.

(silence)

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE TO PARDON*

582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me.
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me.
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

THE WORD WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

NEW TESTAMENT – Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Charles Bostian

SPECIAL MUSIC Conner Family

GOSPEL* – Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON “*Grappling with Jesus*” Dr. Linda Dickerson

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE* (*from A Declaration of Faith*)

Christ calls us to live for our neighbors. Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

HYMN* “*We Are an Offering*” 710

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

**Go with God, Go with God
As you leave this place, go with God.
God will direct your way,
God will light every day.
As you leave this place, go with God.**

Isaiah Jones, Jr. Used by permission.

POSTLUDE (*please remain seated*)- Maria Conner

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN (*everyone is invited!*)

*To those who are weary and need rest;
To all who are lonely and need friends;
To all who mourn and need comfort;
To all who pray,
and to all who do not, but ought;
To all who sin and need a Savior,
And to whosoever comes –
The Church opens wide its doors, and says,
In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
"Welcome."*