



## 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 10, 2023

10:00 am

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### GATHERING MUSIC

#### 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.

### INTROIT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP\* *(from Psalm 85)*

*Sing a song of thanksgiving.*

**Declare God's wonderful deeds.**

*For the Lord dwells among the people.*

**The glory of God abides with us.**

HYMN\*     *"God, the Sculptor of the Mountains"*

5

### PRAYER OF PRAISE\*

## CONFESSION (UNISON)

**Holy God, our love for you and for others has not always been genuine. We have not held fast to what is good, and we have lagged in affection for our neighbors. We have not been patient in suffering, nor have we persevered in prayer. We have repaid evil for evil and have failed to live peaceably with all. Forgive us. Free us from fear of the power of evil and help us to trust in the power of your everlasting goodness.**

**(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.**

OLD TESTAMENT – Exodus 12:1-14

Sue Bentley

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Adult Choir

*“They’ll Know We Are Christians”*

GOSPEL\* – Matthew 18:15-20

SERMON

*“How to Treat Enemies”*

Dr. Linda Dickerson

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

**We recognize the true church of Jesus Christ wherever the work of the Spirit is evident: in preaching and sacraments, in the new life and continuous growth of believers, in the sharing of spiritual gifts and material things, in mission and service to the world. The boundaries of the church are not clearly known to us, but God knows those who are his.**

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\*

*“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”*

753

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION\*

### CHORAL RESPONSE\*

62

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart.  
Love the Lord your God with all your soul.  
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.  
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.**

### POSTLUDE *(please remain seated)*

### FELLOWSHIP TIME *(everyone is invited!)*

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## UPCOMING

Today, September 10 – Congregational meeting after worship to elect officers for the class of 2027; church picnic afterward (hamburgers will be provided—you bring the sides)

Sunday School begins

September 11 (Monday), 7:15 pm – Monday Night Bible study

September 17 – Information meeting and dinner for Abukloi School in South Sudan. All are invited!