



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "The Power of Your Love"

Jane Holstein

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters.

All: The Lord is my shepherd. He restores my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

Liturgist: Even in the valleys and dark places, the Lord is our Shepherd—the one who guides and comforts and protects; the one who knows the way.

All: Even now, the great Shepherd of our souls is with us, and we are never far from his mercy and love.

Psalm 23, adapted

All Singing: 502 "O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise"
Singing verses 1-4, 6

GOD'S GREETING

GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

All Singing: 527 “Come Away from Rush and Hurry”
Soloist singing verse 1, congregation joining on verses 2, 3

Children ages 4–7 may come forward for a blessing before they leave for “Children in Worship.”

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

Reconciliation

Liturgist: Remember that you were once without Christ, strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus, even you, who were once far away, have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

All: For he himself is our peace. He has broken down the dividing wall, the hostility between us, and made us one.

Ephesians 2:11-14

Silent Confession and Reflection

All Singing: 631 “Holy God”

Liturgist: He came and preached peace to those who were far away and peace to those who were near, reconciling both Jews and Gentiles to God in one body through the cross.

All: For through him we all have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Liturgist: Now you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

All: In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And we too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:14-22, adapted

*** All Singing: 330 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

Liturgist: I urge you, therefore, to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

All: There is one body and one Spirit; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Liturgist: But to each of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. Some are apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers. All are called to equip God’s people for works of service, building up the body of Christ,

All: until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, mature in all the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 adapted

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All Singing: 755 “Speak, O Lord”

Scripture: Habakkuk 2:4-5, 3:16-19

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Habakkuk, Esther, Abraham Lincoln & Jesus Discuss COVID & The U.S. Election

* **All Singing: 852 “Faith Begins by Letting Go”**

Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

BENEDICTION

* **All Singing: 943 “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”**

Postlude: “How Can I Keep From Singing”

arr. John Carter

Worship Leaders

Pianist / Organist:

Dora Diephouse

Acolyte:

Grace Batkiewicz

Guitarist:

Jenson Varghese

Liturgist:

Mark Rinkenberger

Djembe:

Paul Mulchrone

Prayer:

Sarah Rinkenberger

Vocalist:

Helen Van Wyck

Preacher:

Ted Boswell

Hymns are from *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)

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