

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Holy Ground"

arr. Fred Bock

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unit 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: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

All: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Liturgist: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

All: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
Psalm 105:1-6

* **All Singing: 502 "O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise"**
Singing verses 1, 2, 4, and 6

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing: 559 "Ten Thousand Reasons"**

Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing before they leave for “God Loves Me” and “Children in Worship.”

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reconciliation

Liturgist: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

All: And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.”

Liturgist: But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

All: Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

Liturgist: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

Matthew 16:21-26

Silent Confession and Reflection

Liturgist: God, we humble ourselves now in confession:

All: We want to be known as followers of Jesus, but we do not always want to follow Jesus. We cling tightly to our lives. We turn away from darkness and death. We indulge ourselves and grasp at worldly rewards. Holy and loving God, forgive all of our thoughts and actions that would protect us from following the path of Christ—the path of the cross.

* **All Singing: 177 “Oh, to See the Dawn”**

Liturgist: Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

All: Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Liturgist: Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

All: Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Liturgist: Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:9-21

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All Singing: 907 “Be Still and Know”
Following lead of the leaders

**Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.**

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Earth’s Crammed with Heaven

* **All Singing: 532 “Be Still, for the Presence”**

Dedication

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Trinity Christian College

OFFERTORY “Holy Is His Name”

John Michael Talbot

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
And my spirit exalts in God my Savior.
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness,
And my name will be forever exalted.
For the mighty God has done great things for me,
And His mercy will reach from age to age.

And holy, holy, holy is His name.

He has mercy in every generation,
He has revealed His power and His glory
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance,
And has lifted up the meek and the lowly.
He has come to help His servant Israel;
He remembers His promise to our fathers.

DOXOLOGY

* **All Singing: 164 “What Wondrous Love”**
Singing verse 3

Sending

* BENEDICTION

* **All Singing: 953 “Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God”**


Postlude: "We Will Glorify"

arr. Fred Bock

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist:	Dora Diephouse	Acolyte:	Vera Hulford
Pianist / Vocalist:	Erin Pacheco	Liturgist:	Mark Jones
Vocalist / Violinist:	Bethany Keely-Jonker	Prayer:	Dorothy Wassenaar
Guitar:	Jeremy Hulford	Encouragement:	Melissa Varghese
Percussion:	Clay Carlson		
Minister:	Roger Nelson		

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