

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m.

July 23, 2023

Entering God's Presence

Welcome and Life in the Community

*Hymn 625 ***How Great Thou Art***

HOW GREAT THOU ART

*Expressing Our Joy Reece Humphreys

Leader: God says, "Listen to me in silence. Let the people renew their strength."

People: As we draw near to God, we draw near to each other, helping our neighbors and saying to each other, "Take courage!"

Leader: We are God's servants, God's friends gathered from the ends of the earth, called from its farthest corners, to whom God says,

People: "I have chosen you; fear not, I am with you."

Leader: In thankfulness for God's presence and our strength renewed,

People: We rejoice!

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your great mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Instrumental ***In the Garden*** (Lisa and Derek Deakins)

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Instrumental ***Blessed Assurance*** (Lisa and Derek Deakins)

Psalm 122 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 540 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem ***Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*** (Lisa and Derek Deakins)

Luke 5:15-26 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 59 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon ***"Will You Be My Friend?"*** The Rev. Vance E. Polley

*Affirmation of Faith and ***Gloria Patri*** (No. 581)

Christ Jesus though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death—even death on a Cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen. (Phil. 2:5-11)

Ministry of Prayer [Text prayer requests to: (843) 437-4239]

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(In the *Offering*, we dedicate our lives and a portion of the resources God has entrusted to us. Your gifts may be dedicated online, by mail, or in-person.)

*Offertory ***I'll Fly Away*** (Lisa and Derek Deakins)

Prayer of Dedication, concluding with *The 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 450 ***Be Thou My Vision*** SLANE

*Benediction

*Going Out into the World ***Victory in Jesus*** (Lisa and Derek Deakins)

*Those that are able, please stand.

We welcome Lisa and Derek Deakins. Lisa and Derek teach violin at Deakins Suzuki Strings.