Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m. *September 10, 2023*

Entering God's Presence

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 729 ***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*** I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

*Expressing Our Joy Reece Humphreys

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
Leader: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
People: "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Leader: Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.
People: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
Leader: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;
People: Wait for the Lord! (Psalm 27)
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

The Assurance of Forgiveness

*Hymn 175 ***Seek Ye First*** ST. THOMAS

Genesis 33:1-10 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 29 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem ***More Love to Thee*** Tom Fettke

Luke 15:11-32 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 73-74 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon ***Grace-Filled Homecomings*** 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]

Dedicating our Gifts and Tithes ~ ***See* oursunrise.org to give securely online**
(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.)

*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 726 ***Will You Come and Follow Me*** KELVINGROVE

*Benediction

*Going Out into the World

*Those that are able, please stand.