

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

11:00 a.m.

October 15, 2023

Entering God's Presence

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

\*Hymn 14                      **For the Beauty of the Earth**                      DIX

\*Expressing Our Joy    Reece Humphreys

*Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve.*

**People: We choose the living God.**

*Leader: The road is narrow that leads to life.*

**People: We will walk the way of Christ.**

*Leader: Faith is not about holding on.*

**People: Faith is about letting go.**

*Leader: We offer more than words, O God.*

**People: We offer you our lives.**

*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, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sin and ask your forgiveness. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us. Create in us a clean heart and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.***

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Hymn 340                      **This Is My Song**                      FINLANDIA

Isaiah 2:1-5 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 594 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem                      **My Lord, What a Morning**                      Spiritual

Matthew 5:1-9 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 4 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon    **"The Peace of God, Which Passes All Understanding"**    Rev. Vance 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](http://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 372                      **O for a World**                      AZMON

\*Benediction

\*Going Out into the World

\*Those that are able, please stand.