

9:00 a.m.

Devotional Service

November 19, 2023

Welcome to the 9:00 a.m. Devotional Service. Together, may we rejoice and give thanks for God's loving grace in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 336 **We Gather Together** KREMSER

*Expressing Our Joy

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God.

People: It is God that made us, and we are his; we are God's people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

People: Give thanks to God, bless his name.

Leader: For the Lord is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. Leader: May the Lord be with you.

(Psalm 100)

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)

God of all forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways. We hear your promise amid our own self-doubt. Hope is proclaimed, yet we seek guarantees. Christ calls us to obedience, but we set conditions. When called to follow, we ask to what end. We applaud commitment, but we treasure our comfort. Forgive our reluctance to walk in newness of life.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Genesis 18:1-15 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 13 in the pew Bible.]

Luke 5:27-32 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 59 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon **We Gather Together** The Rev. Vance E. Polley

*The Apostle's Creed (*Traditional Version*, Page 35) and **Gloria Patri** (No. 581)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

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*At the Presentation **Doxology** (No. 606) OLD HUNDREDTH

*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 643 **Now Thank We All Our God** NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Blessing

*Going Out into the World

*All those who are able, please stand.