

# Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Susan Roegge – "My Tribute" by Andrae Crouch*

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship and Confession*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Each of us has foundational beliefs, deep held convictions that guide our lives. Perhaps we write them on post-it notes to ourselves or in letters to our loved ones. The author of 2 Peter has written a letter to the young, first-century churches, a letter for us as well. "Support your faith," he says, "with goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, mutual affection, and love" (2 Peter 1:5-7). "Beware of those who lead you astray and be attentive to the light of Christ" (2 Peter 2:1, 1:19). "Come to repentance... remember Christ's command to love... there is no day but today" (2 Peter 3:9, 2, 10). We begin our worship in these convictions. Let us find support for our faith in the grace of God. Let us tend to the light of Christ. Let us not miss the moment, but come to repentance, for there is no day but today.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess the ways that we have been led astray. We have lusted for things and have been slaves to many masters. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Your confession has been heard and you have been set free. Live in the new life and love of our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

P: Living in this new life and love, we share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Gathering Song* – “Dearest Jesus at Your Word” ELW 520 (organ)

- 1 **Dearest Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you;  
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you  
as the promises here given draw us wholly up to heaven.**
- 2 **All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
till your Spirit breaks the night, filling us with light unclouded.  
All good thoughts and all good living come but by your gracious giving.**
- 3 **Radiance of God's glory bright, Light of light from God proceeding,  
Jesus, send your blessed light; help our hearing, speaking, heeding,  
that our prayers and songs may please you,  
as with grateful hearts we praise you.**
- 4 **Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, praise to you and adoration!  
Grant us what we need the most: all your gospel's consolation  
while we here on earth await you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.**

*Children's Sermon*

*Hymn of Praise* – “You Alone” (piano)

**You alone are holy. You alone are mighty.  
You alone are the reason we sing songs of love as our praise offering.  
You alone are the holy one -- You alone!**

**You alone are holy. You alone are mighty.  
All creation in heaven and earth sing the praise that the angels have heard.  
You alone are the holy one! You alone are the mighty one! You alone are the holy  
one -- You alone!**

## WORD

*Reading:* 2 Peter 1:1-11

Reader: Kelly Hartz

<sup>1</sup>Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have received a faith as precious as ours through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup>May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup>Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants in the divine nature. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. <sup>8</sup>For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For anyone who lacks these things is short-sighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble. <sup>11</sup>For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

P: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 13:44-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup>‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song: "Seek Ye First"

*(piano)*

1. **Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you -- Allelu, alleluia!**
2. **Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you -- Allelu, alleluia!**
3. **We do not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, Alleluia!**

*Sermon:* "Peter's Bucket Letter – Support Your Faith"

*Song of the Day* – "Give Me Ears to Listen"

*(piano)*

**Let me be your servant, let me walk your way.  
Guide me on your path, give night the light of day.  
Let me be a sure foundation, pure and strong.  
Let me tell of your salvation all life long**

*Refrain: Give me ears to listen. Give me eyes to see.  
Give me words to speak and show your face to me.*

**In silence, when you call me let me hear your voice.  
Jesus, walk beside me, let my soul rejoice.  
When winds and currents batter me, help me be sure.  
Give me courage from the storms when they occur. *Refrain***

**Last night when I awoke I heard you call my name.  
You refreshed my soul, I felt your burning flame.  
O, strengthen me to bear my cross and walk your way.  
Give me grace to comfort those with all I say. *Refrain twice***

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose**

again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\*Prayers*

*Stewardship Time*

*Sandi Watts, organ*

*—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—*

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

**C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

*\*Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*\*Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*\*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Communion Songs*

“Open the Eyes of My Heart” *(piano)*

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.**

**I want to see You, I want to see You.**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.**

**I want to see You, I want to see You.**

**To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love, As we sing holy, holy, holy. Repeat**

*Coda: As we sing holy, holy, holy.*

**We sing holy, holy, holy.**

**We sing holy, holy, holy.**

**I want to see You. Repeat coda**

**I want to see You.**

"The Church's One Foundation" ELW 654 *(organ)*

- 1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

- 1 **Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us  
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**
  
- 2 **With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—  
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children, the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Barb Davenport

Greeters: Lillian Korous

Reader: Kelly Hartz

Ushers: Pat Glyshaw & Hallie Mayner

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Susan Roegge

Organist: Sandi Watts

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Patty Nelson & Monica Proefrock

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Host: Karen Sibert





## Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street	

## Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, August 13, 9:30am: Worship

11am: Anniversary Team

Wednesday, August 16, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

10am: Discipleship Group (Library)

6pm: Women's Fellowship at Proud Richard's (600 E. State)

Thursday, August 17, 6pm: Church Council Meeting

Sunday, August 20, 9:30am: Worship

Wednesday, August 23, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Friday, August 25, 7:30pm: Zuiderveld Memorial Concert at First Presbyterian  
321 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Springfield, IL

## Song Credits

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"Give Me Ears to Listen," by Timothy Smith, © 2005 spiritandsong.com. CCLI#973583

"Open the Eyes of My Heart," words and music by Paul Baloche. CCLI#973583

## News Updates

### Discipleship Group

Come prepared to share YOUR favorite Bible verse with the group. Why is it your favorite? What makes it special to you in your faith journey? Join us at **10am on**

**Wednesday, August 16**, in the Faith Library to learn and share. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

### **Women of Faith Fellowship Night**

The Women of Faith fellowship group will meet for dinner **on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm** at Proud Richard's (600 E. State St.). We'd love for you to join us! Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Coming Up September 11-15: Doorbell Dinners**

Help us deliver meals in the community. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair-Trade coffee sales.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Join this exciting new ministry team! Sharon Zuiderveld and her sister, Mary Ellen, are looking for crocheters and knitters (or those who want to learn) to help make prayer shawls. Take a look at the pattern books by the coffee sales; if you would like to make a shawl, we can copy the pattern for you to take home (please leave the books on the counter). The shawls will then be given to friends as reminders that they are covered by our prayers and the love and grace of God.

### **Zuiderveld Memorial Concert**

Celebrating the life and music of Rudy Zuiderveld

Friday, August 25, 7:30pm

First Presbyterian Church

321 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St.

Springfield, IL

Admission is free

Featuring Stephen Tharp, Nichol DelGiorno, Thomas Drury, Homer Ferguson, Sr. Lori Kirchman, and Timothy Spelbring with Garrett Allman, *pianist*; Devon Carpenter, *harpist*; and Diane Dietz, *soprano*.

### **Sign-Up Sheets**

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

## **Soup Luncheon Carry-Out Style**

We would like to have our annual Soup Luncheon like we did last year — carry-out meals of a soup and dessert on **Sunday, October 8** after church until 1:00pm. Please plan to purchase lunch to take home that day and consider offering to help with the preparation. This event will also be open to the public.

## **Synod Newsletter**

If you'd like to keep up with what's going on in our Central/Southern Illinois Synod, you can visit the Synod website ([www.csis-elca.org](http://www.csis-elca.org)), click on Synod Newsletter, and that will direct you to a subscriber form. Otherwise, we could forward the Newsletters to you from the church office – just let us know.

## **Outdoor Worship and Picnic**

Join us **on September 3** for our final outdoor service of the season. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the grass, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible through windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we are having a cookout picnic and time for games and activities for all. **If you can provide something for the meal**, see the sign-up sheets on the counter by the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet. Our hope is that this will not only be a time of vibrant worship and blessing to our Faith Family, but also to others, so please invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

## **Picnic Ministry – Sign Up to help with Outdoor Picnics**

Our Picnic Ministry Team is looking for some volunteers to help with preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month outdoor picnics this summer. **You can help by signing up on the sheets** by the Coffee Sales next to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet:

- **Dates:** Sunday, September 3
- **Setup** (6 volunteers each Sunday for tables and chairs at 8:30 am)
- **Side Dishes** (8 volunteers each Sunday – see the sign-up sheet for specifics)
- **Desserts** (3 volunteers each Sunday)
- **Clean Up** (6 volunteers each Sunday to put away tables and chairs and clean in the kitchen)

For more information, talk with Kevin and Martha Krohe on our Picnic Ministry Team.

## **Music Update**

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer, and we will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me.

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

## **Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea**

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

## **Contribution Envelopes for 2023**

are available in the office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.