

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Service
August 4, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Jean Welch – “Beach Spring,” arr. Carlson

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: As we consider what it means to be a disciple, we ask ourselves the question:

C: Who am I following?

P: Everybody is following something or someone, but are we following Jesus? As we gather for worship, we are here to praise God for who God is and all that God has done. We are here to receive the grace of God in water and word, bread and wine. We are here to lift our voices in prayer and song. We are here as a community of faith that walks with one another through the joys and struggles of life.

C: Let us also be here to follow Jesus!

P: Too often, we do not follow Jesus. We follow people and ideas that make us feel good, that give us what we want, and make us feel right and that others are wrong. I invite you to take this time of silence to confess all that we follow that leads us down this dark path.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, following people, things, and ideas that lead us away from you. What we follow influences what we love, and we have not loved you with our whole hearts or our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so

that we would follow you first, above all else, to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do as Jesus did, all to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins... and, I invite you into a deeper journey of discipleship, of apprenticeship, that we would be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do as Jesus did. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Gathering Song – “I Love to Be in Your Presence”

**I love to be in your presence with your people singing praises;
I love to stand and rejoice, lift my hands and raise my voice. (repeat)**

**You set my feet to dancing, you fill my heart with song,
You give me reason to rejoice, rejoice.**

**I love to be in your presence with your people singing praises;
I love to stand and rejoice, lift my hands and raise my voice.
Lift my hands, lift my hands, lift my hands and raise my voice.**

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise: “My Life Is in You, Lord”

**My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord,
my hope is in you, Lord, in you, it’s in you.
My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord,
my hope is in you, Lord, in you, it’s in you.**

**I will praise you with all of my life. I will praise you with all of my strength,
with all of my life, with all of my strength. All of my hope is in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord,
my hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord,
my hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you, in you.**

WORD

**Gospel Reading:* John 14:15-17; 15:1-5

Reader: Liddy Stark

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁵I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

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

Sermon: “Goal #1: Be with Jesus”

Song of the Day – “Child of the Water”

*Refrain: You're a child of the water, child of the Word,
guided by promise and stories you've heard.*

God of the wounded knows you by name and carries you home ev'ry day.

**From your first breath to the last step, all of the dance;
Down deep in your laughter, whatever your fears, try to remember. *Refrain***

**Life is a gift, time carries on, and you will grow;
Amidst your believing and throughout your doubt, something is sure. Refrain**

We journey together as children of God, sealed by the cross. Refrain

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

“Words for the Beginning of Your Christian Life”

(adapted from a poem by Rev. Sarah Speed)

Reiss Tobias Easton, if we could give you words for the very beginning –
for this journey we make together,
for the celebrations and the sorrows,
we would say, “Oh, dear child, how you are loved.”
But the thing about love is that you can’t stop there,
So, we would go on to say, “You are strong, stronger than you think.
And you are not alone – look at this family who adores you,
Godparents who pray for you, and this congregation that surrounds you.

You’ve done a lot already.
You’ve learned how to crawl,
how to walk and how to run,
but there is so much more to come,
and you are loved.

And then we might say, “This world is a mess, but it is our home,
and you can make it better, so always try to make it better.”

And maybe most important of all:
“There is love that is bigger than our understanding,
that moves through this world, and that love is called God.
That love is with you always and knows your name by heart.”

Those are the words we would say to you
as you laugh and cry, stretch and splash in these waters today,
the first day of your Christian life.

Let God be your foundation.
Let love be your beginning.

P: God is our foundation. Love is our beginning. And in God’s great love, we are given a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. By water and the

Word, God frees us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world. In the waters of baptism, God proclaims to us who we are. We are beloved children of God.

Presentation

Parent: I bring Reiss Tobias Easton Proefrock to this Christian community and to the waters of Holy Baptism.

P: Reiss, you are a beloved child of God, and today you are given the name Christian. To help you grow into your name, your parents are called to make promises.

Monica, as you bring Reiss to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that he may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help him grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parent: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Ann, Nick, Marilyn, and Kevin, as godparents, you have a responsibility to pray for Reiss and help him always remember that he is a beloved child of God. Do you promise to nurture him in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Godparents: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The congregation stands.

P: People of God, you have a responsibility to support and surround Reiss with Christian love, praying for him, discipling him, and serving with him. Do you promise to support Reiss and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Profession of Faith

P: There is evil in this world that we name devil and brokenness we call sin. We are powerless to overcome them, but the grace of God gives us strength to stand against them and forgiveness when we fall. Together, we profess our desire to live in this grace and in opposition to this brokenness.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: As we live together in Christ, we are made one in baptism and profess one faith. It is this faith that centers us on the grace of our Triune God – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

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

Water is poured into the font.

P: We give you thanks, O God. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. In the waters of the flood you called Noah and brought forth new life. By Moses, you called the people of Israel to follow you through the waters and led them from slavery into freedom. You nourished them with water from the rock and brought them to the promised land. At the river your Son was baptized by John and you proclaimed to all that he is your “beloved child.” In the waters of baptism, you create, you bring forth new life in us, you set us free from the power of sin, and you proclaim that we too are your beloved Children.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Holy Baptism

The congregation sits

P: Beloved child of God, in this water, God calls you by name. Reiss, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Laying on of Hands

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Reiss with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen

Anointing with Oil

P: In the Old Testament, oil is used to anoint and set people apart. In baptism, we are set apart as God’s beloved children to live lives of love, justice, and mercy. Reiss, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

Giving of a Candle

Congregational Representative: In John 8:12, Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. The one who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” In Matthew 5:14, Jesus said, “You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.” Monica, we give you this candle to light again and again as Reiss grows up. Remember this day and always know that he is and will always be a beloved child of God.

Welcome

P: Together we say:

C: Reiss Tobias Easton Proefrock, you are beloved and blessed. By the grace of God that flows in the waters of baptism, we are drenched in our love for you, washed in our delight for you, and born anew by the grace that flows from the heart of our God who bore you to us. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and in bearing God’s creative and redeeming love to all the world.

*Every day we are to remember our baptism and remember that God’s promises are for us as well. We have just heard the proclamation that Reiss is God’s beloved child. Now it is time for you to hear it for yourself. Turn to your neighbor and exchange the sweet assurance that you are also God’s beloved child as you say,
“Child of God, Jesus loves you!”*

**Prayers*

Stewardship Time

“By Our Love,” arr. Nockels, *Kelly Hartz, vocalist*

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder provided by the Ushers—

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 Distribution

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.**

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

**1. Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

*Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!*

**2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness;
Shine on me, shine on me. Refrain**

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

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song: “Teach Me to Dance”*

*Refrain: Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart,
teach me to move in the pow’r of your Spirit,
teach me to walk in the light of your presence,
teach to me to dance to the beat of your heart.
Teach me to love with your heart of compassion,
teach me to trust in the word of your promise,*

*teach me to hope in the day of your coming,
teach to me to dance to the beat of your heart.*

1. **You wrote the rhythm of life, created heaven and earth,
in you is joy without measure.
So, like a child in your sight, I dance to see your delight,
for I was made for your pleasure, pleasure. *Refrain***
2. **Let all my movements express a heart that loves to say ‘yes’,
a will that leaps to obey you.
Let all my energy blaze to see the joy in your face;
let my whole being praise you, praise you. *Refrain***

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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“Teach Me to Dance,” from **The Source**, Kevin Mayhew Limited, © 1998. CCLI#973583

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Barb Davenport

Greeter: Lynette Hamilton

Reader: Liddy Stark

Usher: Barb Davenport

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Musician: Jean Welch

Financial Assistants: Greg Kimler & Patty Nelson

Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert

Coffee Host: *Indoor Potluck*



Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The altar plants are given today by
Kris & Bishop John Roth in celebration of Sam's birthday on August 3
and
by the Dichsen family in celebration of Pastor Adam's birthday on August 6

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, August 4, 9:30am: Worship + Baptism of Reiss Proefrock
10:30am: Indoor Potluck

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

Sunday, August 11, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Discussion: "Discipleship," in the Justice Room

Wednesday, August 14, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Thursday, August 15, 5:45pm: Council Meeting

News Updates

Outdoor Worship and Potluck

Our outdoor worship services continue today and on September 1. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the east lawn, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible from the Justice room windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. Invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

Indoor Potluck Today

Following outdoor worship today, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. If you can help clean up after the meal today, that would be great. For the September meal, please bring a dish to share and enjoy these meals together. If you are able, please sign up by the Total Ministry Center to bring a dish, help set up, or help clean up.

Discussion after Worship – August 11, 18, & 25 – “Discipleship”

Pastor Adam's new sermon series on discipleship will draw from the book, "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer. Following worship, all are invited to the Justice Room to discuss the book, the sermon, and other aspects of discipleship in our church and lives. Copies of the book are available for \$10 under the working cross in the gathering area. Our focus will be one chapter each week, but as always, we are always open to where the Spirit leads!

Men's Prayer Group

Help us grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on **Wednesday mornings at 7:00**, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Gilbert Joehl, Kevin Krohe, or Larry Kuster.

Music is a Great Way to Connect!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts: jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

Sunday School

We are already starting to make plans for this Fall's Sunday School program. **If you have an interest in helping**, please contact the church office or talk to Pastor Adam.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

It's time for another Women of Faith game night! Join us on **Wednesday, August 14th at 6:00pm at Pam Devlin's house**. Bring a snack to share and your favorite card or board game. We'd love to have you join us! Contact Monica Proefrock with questions: 217-737-0475.

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at **10:00am on Wednesday, August 21** in the Faith Library. Spend time with others in prayer, study, and conversation. For more info, contact Kelly Hartz: 217-502-1979 or khartz@sompo-intl.com.

My Ascension: a film to spread hope and fight suicide

You are invited to view this powerful documentary **today, 3:00pm** at First Christian Church (2106 S. Main St., Jacksonville). A must watch for parents and teens and anyone working with teens. Sponsored by Central Christian Church and the Morgan County Coroner's Office.

Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches Life & Works Project

Each Fall, Jacksonville welcomes numerous college students to our area. The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches will be distributing collected items to all students at Illinois College's Community Involvement Night. Each student will receive snacks, as well as welcome messages and information from contributing churches. Faith is invited to participate! **Collect granola bars, cheese crackers, and peanut butter crackers from now until August 11** and place them in the blue box in the Mission & Ministry Center. Questions? Contact Pat Glyshaw at 217 243-8093, or pat.glyshaw@gmail.com. Together, we can do great things!

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!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate). Checks should