



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 18, 2023

10:00 am

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

* all who are able are invited to rise in body or spirit.

Bold indicates congregational response.

Words to hymns will not be printed in the bulletin. They will be on the screen. If you wish, hymnals are available.

CALL TO WORSHIP* (from Psalm 33)

Jesus Christ summons us to answer God's call of mercy.

Christ gathers us and gives us power

To be healed and to heal, to be forgiven and to forgive,

To be freed from sin and to set others free,

To tell one another and the world:

God's presence is at hand. Let us worship God.

HYMN* *"There Is a Longing in Our Hearts"*

470

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION (UNISON)

Holy Three, Holy One, we do not know how to look for you. We do not sense your nearness, and if there are angels among us, we are unaware. We do not trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit. O Covenant-keeper, forgive us. Let us laugh with joy because your grace has made peace among us. Send us out with this good news so that others will also receive your blessing.

(silence)

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

[You are invited to exchange signs of peace with one another.]

RESPONSE TO PARDON*

582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me.
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me.
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.**

THE WORD WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

EPISTLE – Romans 5:1-8

George Norton

SPECIAL MUSIC

Pat Fullen

“Worthy of Worship” Blankenship

GOSPEL* – Matthew 9:35-38; 10:16-23

SERMON

“Sheep Among Wolves” Dr. Linda Dickerson

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE* *(from A Declaration of Faith)*

God sends the church into the world. God has not taken God’s people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship him there and serve all humankind. We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord in behalf of all people in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility. We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving, for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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*

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

718

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

**Go with God, Go with God
As you leave this place, go with God.
God will direct your way,
God will light every day.
As you leave this place, go with God.**

Isaiah Jones, Jr. Used by permission.

POSTLUDE *(please remain seated)*

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN *(everyone is invited!)*

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 17 – Juneteenth celebration will be hosted at the Historic Edgar A. Long property located at 140 Scattergood Drive NW, Christiansburg VA 24073. The events are from 4pm to 8 pm on Saturday, June 17th. Come one, come all as the community celebrates together! Please visit Christiansburg Institute's facebook page for additional information.

June 18, 5:00 pm – Betsey Moe (our PCUSA mission co-worker in Guatemala) and her husband Eric will be presenting at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church. Betsy was our guide and interpreter when I visited Guatemala in April. We are invited, but please call the church office if you decide to attend, since there is dinner.

June 19, 6:00 pm – Betsey and Eric Moe will be presenting at Salem Presbyterian Church, 41 East Main Street, Salem. Betsey is going to tell us about her work so far in Guatemala as a Mission Co-Worker and Eric Moe and Chris Vogado (pastor at Salem) are going to entertain us with their musical talents! There is a dinner as well, so please let the church know if you will attend.