



## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9, 2023

10:00 am

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### 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\*

*Beloved of God, the winter is past, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come.*

**Let us lift our voices in praise to our Creator.**

HYMN\*

*"Lord of the Dance," v. 1-3*

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### PRAYER OF PRAISE\*

CONFESSION (UNISON)

**Lord, you play for us, but we often refuse to dance with you. We are weary from responsibilities and find no welcome in the marketplace. We find ourselves unable to live into your vision of our common life. Forgive us. Make yourself known to us in the silence. Shape your children for the commonwealth of your love.**

**(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.**

RESPONSE TO PARDON\*

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**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

OLD TESTAMENT – Romans 7:15-25a

Karen Arnold

SPECIAL MUSIC        *“Greensleeves”*

Alex and Marshall Chaney on hand chimes

GOSPEL\* – Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

SERMON

*“Dancing with Jesus”*    Dr. Linda Dickerson

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

**We declare Christ has freed us from trying to save ourselves by obeying the law. He restores to us God’s law as a gift and delight. The law describes concretely the shape of our freedom. When we accept its discipline, it keeps our lives from being chaotic and increases our effectiveness in the church’s mission.**

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\*

*“Lord of the Dance,” v. 4-5*

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## 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!)*

*To those who are weary and need rest;  
To all who are lonely and need friends;  
To all who mourn and need comfort;  
To all who pray,  
and to all who do not, but ought;  
To all who sin and need a Savior,  
And to whosoever comes –  
The Church opens wide its doors, and says,  
In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
"Welcome."*