



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 16, 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*

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

**Your word is our heritage forever,
the joy of our hearts. Let us worship God.**

HYMN*

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

250

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION (UNISON)

Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations of worship. In the mystery of your love, overshadow us. Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts until we bloom and spill with your passion to serve in a world that is wasting.

(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*

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.**

EPISTLE – Romans 8:1-11

Lisa Garcia

SPECIAL MUSIC *“I Wish You Jesus”*

Marya Katz, Robin Begnoche, Olyvia Harter

GOSPEL* – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON *“Gardening with Jesus, Part 1”* Dr. Linda Dickerson

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

In Christ, God’s Word of acceptance takes flesh: by grace through faith we are set right with God, adopted as children of God, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done. In Christ, God’s Word of demand is lived out: to love God and neighbor as he did is what God requires of us.

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* *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

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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."*