



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 14, 2025

10:00 am

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

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Crowds gathered to hear Jesus speak of pain?
the pain of losing something precious.

Crowds gathered to hear Jesus speak of joy?
the joy of finding what was lost.

*We gather to hear Jesus speak
words of truth, words of power, words of love.*
Speak now, O Lord, for your servants are listening.

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home— until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored.

(silent confession)

**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.**

A TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

OLD TESTAMENT – Psalm 14

*“You evildoers may humiliate the plans of those who suffer,
but the Lord is their refuge.”*

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Adult Choir

“Amazing Grace! Amazing Love!”

GOSPEL – Luke 15:1-10

*“Joy breaks out in the presence of God’s angels
over one sinner who changes both heart and life.”*

SERMON

“Repenting”

Dr. Linda Dickerson

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE* *(from “The Confession of Belhar”)*

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world . . . that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

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, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* 475

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE* 543, v. 1

Congregation

**God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME - All are welcome!

11:15 - SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES