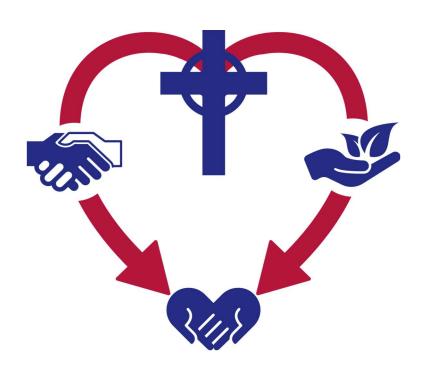
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Fifth Sunday after Pentecost June 23, 2024

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



We Gather to Worship God

*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (Matthew 5:3-10, Bible Project Translation)

Leader: How good is life for the poor in spirit, because theirs is the Kingdom of the skies.

People: How good is life for those who grieve, because they will be comforted.

Leader: How good is life for the unimportant, because they will inherit the land.

People: How good is life for those who hunger and thirst for right relationships, because they will be satisfied.

Leader: How good is life for those who show mercy, because they will be shown mercy.

People: How good is life for the pure in heart, because they will see God.

Leader: How good is life for the peacemakers, because they will be called children of God.

People: How good is life for those who have been persecuted on account of doing what is right, because theirs is the Kingdom of the Skies. Amen.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #457

"How Happy Are The Saints of God"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call us to be a part of your heavenly kin-dom, but we are too often formed by the kingdoms of this world. You call us to righteousness and justice, but we crave power and influence. You bless us abundantly, but we are jealous of those who have more and judge those who want the same things that we have. Help us to see your blessing of us and seek your blessing for others. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 32)

Leader: How fortunate is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. Friends, believe the good news, in Jesus the Christ our sins are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Transition Hymn #628

"Praise, I Will Praise You Lord"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources (see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Scripture Reading Psalm 1

Special Music "In the Garden" Jimmy Boyter

Words and music by Charles Austin Miles

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

Scripture Reading Matthew 5:1-12

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word Rev. AJ Ochart

"The Good Life"

Responding to God's Word

*Affirmation of Our Faith (Nicene Creed Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Responsive Hymn #172

"Blest Are They"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Matthew 5:3-12

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Prayers for the People

Dana Tate

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #823

"Shall Tribulation or Distress"

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #539 (v.1)

"We Will Go Out With Joy"

*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u> – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Michael and Ann Paschall in memory of Michael's uncle. Rev. Harry Paschall.

The flowers in the Narthex are in memory of former member, Harriet Scales.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. AJ Ochart, Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Millie Shiflett, Accompanist Kellen Jones, Lay Leader

