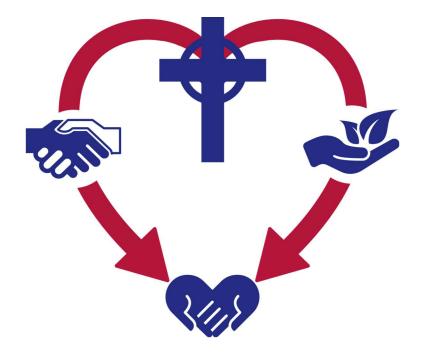
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ: by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 22, 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

Leader: Now the sons of Jacob were twelve. The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob's firstborn), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. [And one daughter, Dinah]

People: The sons of Rachael: Joseph and Benjamin

Leader: The sons of Bilhah, Racheal's handmaid: Dan and Naphtali. The sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid: Gad and Asher.

People: These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #174

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

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)

God of righteousness, you call us to be in right relationship with you, our siblings, and all of creation; yet our relationships are broken. We favor some relationships over others and allow differences to create division. We allow our own ambitions to drive a wedge between siblings and cannot speak peaceably to one another. We conspire to eliminate our enemies, and only show mercy when it is to our own advantage. We make plans within plans, so that we can prosper when others fail. We sell our own siblings in order to prosper. Our lives are in your hands, O God, and you walk with us through our darkest days. Help us to reconcile with those we have harmed and forgive those who have harmed us, knowing that you work all things together for good. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession Leader: And all the people of Christ say, People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Through many dangers, toils, and snares, we have already come. 'Tis grace has brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home. Even when we have meant things for evil, God makes good. Friends, receive forgiveness, give forgiveness, and be at peace. In Jesus 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 #614

"Great Are 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

Time for Young Disciples (Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

Special Music	"Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace"	Chancel Choir
	words by St. Francis of Assisi, music by Lloyd Larson	

Scripture Reading Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21 Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God. People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

"Dreams Fulfilled"

Rev. AJ Ochart

Responding to God's Word

*Affirmation of Our Faith (Confession of 1967 – Unison)

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of [hu]man's life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes [hu]man's natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that [God's] purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from [God's] creation. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. "Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

*Responsive Hymn #445

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

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

Respond: 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.

Sending Out Into the World

"Forgive Our Sins, As We Forgive"

*Charge and Blessing

*Sending Hymn #444

*Congregational Benediction #313 (v.4)

*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers – the flowers were placed in the Sanctuary in thanksgiving for Luniell and Don Bridges's birthdays.

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 Louise Ochart, Lay Leader



Romans 8:28-30

"God, How Can We Forgive"

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Kenneth Jones

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"