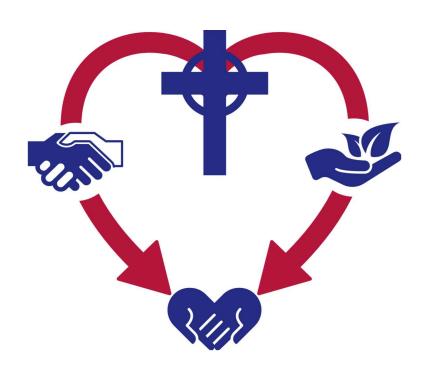
# We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



## A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 8, 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: Adonai God gently kneels and forms the human from the dirt,

People: an image of God, breathing God's Spirit. Leader: Adonai God places the human in the garden,

People: to nurture and protect it.

Invocation

\*Opening Hymn #23

"God You Spin the Whirling Planets"

## 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 creation, you made us in your image and fill us with your Spirit. You invite us as cocreators in the world that you love. Yet we do what is good in our own eyes. We see, desire, and take what we want. We refuse to see your image in our fellow humans. We store up more than we need, and waste what others could use. We poison the air, soil, and water for our own comfort. We extract what we want from the earth, and do not consider other's needs either present or future. We have not been good stewards. Teach us your ways, LORD God, instruct us in your knowledge. Teach us to be in right relationship with you, one another, and all creation. Help us to nurture and protect our human siblings, our non-human siblings, and this planet that you have entrusted into our care. Help us to create and restore your creation. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: the LORD God has created us for righteousness and is always calling us back into right relationship with God, one another, and all of creation. The world has been reconciled to God through Christ. God welcomes us back into the garden. In Christ you and I are a new creation, the old has passed away, the new has come. Believe the good news of the gospel, in Jesus Christ we 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 arr. Lloyd Larson "How Great Thou Art"

Kenneth Jones Millie Shiflett

Scripture Reading Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8

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

"To Serve and Protect"

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 #475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Romans 8:18-25

**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 #370

"This Is My Father's World"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction #313 (v.2)

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

\*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u> – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Sandee and Kevin Cribbs in memory of beloved wife, Pam Cribbs and blessed daughter Kalie Cribbs.

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 Dana Tate, Lay Leader

