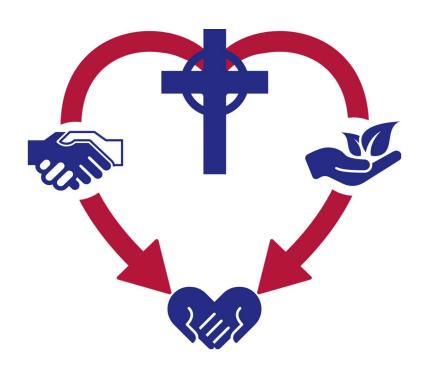
# We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



## A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 15, 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 (Genesis 12:1-3)

Leader: Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house

People: and go to the land that I will show you.

Leader: I will make you a great nation and I will bless you and I will make your name great,

People: so that you will be a blessing.

Leader: I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you will be cursed;

People: and in you, all of the families of the earth will be blessed. Amen.

Invocation

\*Opening Hymn #50

"Deep in the Shadows of the Past"

## 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 blessing, you have given to us in abundance. You invite us to trust in your provision and follow you wherever you lead. You call us to reach for the stars and imagine a kin-dom beyond our own. Yet we find it hard to lift our eyes from what is right in front of us. We trust our own power for provision, and we misuse and discard others for our own comfort. We know your good news, but we do not trust it to be good. Give us the faith to trust you for our needs, needs for today and needs for the future. Give us patience in our waiting when your answer does not fit our expectations. Give us your righteousness this day and always. Amen.

### Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Just as Abram believed in God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness, so we have received the grace of God. Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

Special Music

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Mack Wilberg

**Chancel Choir** 

**Scripture Reading** 

**Genesis 15:1-6** 

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

"Shoot for the Stars"

## Responding to God's Word

\*Hymn of Preparation for Baptism #490

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

#### Remembrance of Baptism

#### **Opening Sentences:**

Leader: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

People: For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews and Greek, slaves and free—and we were all made to drink of the one Spirit.

#### 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.

## Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #722

"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction #313 (v.3)

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

\*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u> – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Karlee Tate in celebration of Lottie Belle Murtaugh's birthday.

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 Volunteer, Lay Leader

