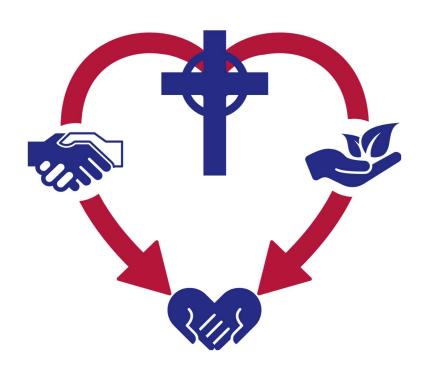
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 29, 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: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who has set us apart by the Word, and in whose name we gather.

People: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who creates the fruit of the earth.

Leader: As *Adonai* spoke these words of Encouragement to Moses, God revealed the plan by which the children of Israel might be redeemed.

People: "I will free you from the forced labor of the Egyptians... rescue you from their oppression... redeem you with an outstretched arm... I will take you as my people, and I will be your God". (Exodus 6:6-7)

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #330

"Our Help Is in the Name 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)

God of liberation. You have redeemed us by your own hand and freed us from enslavement to sin and death. You have marked us by the blood of the lamb, so that we might be saved. Yet we fear those who are not like us and use the tools at our disposal to control them. We enslave others by our actions and inaction. We are more fearful of the changes that freedom will bring than the certainty of enslavement. Even though you have redeemed us, we carry our chains with us into freedom. Redeem our lives from the pit, O God. Help us to experience your freedom in our own lives, and fight for the redemption of our siblings. Help us to trust that you are who you were and will be who you have been. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: I will sing to Adonai, for God has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider God has thrown into the sea. Adonai is our strength and our might, and has become our salvation. Who is like you, Adonai among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders? In your steadfast-loving-kindness, you led the people whom you redeemed; you guided us by your strength to your holy abode. You have brought us in and planted us on the mountain of your own possession, the place, O Adonai that you have made your abode, the sanctuary, O Adonai, that your hands have established!

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 "Go Down Moses"

Kellen Jones

arr. by H.T. Burleigh

Scripture Reading Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8

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

"Haggadah"

Responding to God's Word

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

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 the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity; Therefore, we reject any doctrine which, in such a situation, sanctions in the name of the gospel or of the will of God the forced separation of people on the grounds of race and color and thereby in advance obstructs and weakens the ministry and experience of reconciliation in Christ.

*Responsive Hymn #516

"For the Bread Which You Have Broken"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Luke 22:14-20

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

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

*Sending Hymn #339

"Lift Every Voice and Sing!"

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #313 (v.1)

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u> – the flowers were placed in the Sanctuary by Barbara Balentine in honor of Frankie Balentine'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 Kellen Jones, Lay Leader

