

**21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

Dan Obenschain

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.
The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.
We desire to live in God's house
and to seek God in his holy temple.
**We have come with shouts of joy,
to sing and to make music to the Lord.**
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths
in this hour of worship and always.**

 **Invocation**

Dan Obenschain

Lord, open to us the sea of your mercy,
and water us with full streams
from the riches of your grace
and the springs of your kindness.
Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace;
kindle in us the fire of your love,
and strengthen our weakness by your power
as we become close to you and to each other. **Amen.**

 **Hymn 8**

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Dan Obenschain

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD.
"Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;

though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.”

—Isaiah 1:18, NIV

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Dan Obenschain

Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

—based on Psalm 51:10-12

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Dan Obenschain

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

—Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!



Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Minute for Stewardship

Pamela Johnson

Invitation Do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Offering

Offertory

*Learning to Lean
Dennis Leshner, piano*

Stallings

! Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

! Prayer of Dedication

We are not our own; we belong to you. You have created us and given us life anew, O God, our Creator, Savior, and Sustainer. We extend our arms and open our hands to present our offerings to you. We make these gestures to display outwardly our hearts' overflowing gratitude for all your gifts. Receive these gifts from us, O Triune God, and through them bring life and hope to many. In the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

! Praise Song

Jesus, Firm Foundation

*How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word
What more can He say than to you He has said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled*

Verse 2

*Fear not He is with us O be not dismayed
For He is our God our Sustainer and Strength
He'll be our Defender and cause us to stand
Upheld by His merciful almighty hand*

Chorus

*How firm our foundation
How sure our salvation
And we will not be shaken
Jesus firm foundation*

Verse 3

The soul that is trusting in Jesus as Lord

*Will press on enduring the darkest of storm
And though even hell should endeavor to shake
He'll never no never no never forsake
He'll never no never no never forsake*

Chorus

*Bridge
Age to age He stands faithful to the end
All may fade away but He will remain
He will remain*

Chorus

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

The Family of God

Dennis Leshner

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:27-4:7

²⁷ For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. ²⁸ There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise.

⁴ Now I say that as long as the heir is a child, he differs in no way from a slave, though he is the owner of everything. ² Instead, he is under guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were in slavery under the elements of the world. ⁴ When the time came to completion, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then God has made you an heir.

Sermon

*"Heirs of the Promise"
Rev. Tim Latham*



Hymn 285

In Christ There is No East or West

Responding
We respond to God's Word



Profession of Faith (*Heidelberg Catechism*)

**I believe that the Son of God
through his Spirit and Word,
out of the entire human race,
from the beginning of the world to its end,
gathers, protects, and preserves for himself
a community chosen for eternal life**

and united in true faith.
And of this community I am and always will be
a living member.

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 54

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Praise Song

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

*How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure that He should give
His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away as wounds
Which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.*

*I will not boast in anything:
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.*



Benediction & Blessing



Postlude