

**8th Sunday after Pentecost  
July 23, 2023**

**Gathering**  
*God invites us to enter His presence*

**Prelude**


**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

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

*Dennis Leshner*

This is the day that the LORD has made;  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

 **Invocation** (*Responsively*)

*Dennis Leshner*

We gather in your presence, King of the universe,  
to acclaim your great salvation.  
You have done marvelous things.  
You rescued your people from sin and death,  
through the mighty work of Jesus, your Son.  
You send missionaries to the ends of the earth.  
You raise up prophets to witness to justice.  
You reveal your righteousness to the nations.  
Send forth your Spirit, Lord;  
**renew the face of the earth.**

The whole earth rejoices.  
Waves crash over waves in echoes of praise.  
Rivers proclaim your goodness as they cascade against their beds.  
Mountains, standing together as a chorus, declare your faithfulness.  
Wind whispering through the leaves makes music to you.  
Creatures of all shapes and sizes join in the song.  
Into this glorious harmony  
send forth your Spirit, Lord;  
**renew the face of the earth.**

We too raise our voices, almighty God.  
With all the earth, we shout for joy.  
We burst into jubilant song  
for the marvelous things you have done.  
For your faithfulness, for your love, for your salvation,  
for the promise of your return in glory,  
we make music to you, our Lord and King.  
While we wait for your coming,  
send forth your Spirit, Lord;  
**renew the face of the earth. Amen.**



## Hymn 4

*How Great Thou Art*

### Confessing

***God invites us to be honest with Him***

#### **Call to Confession** *(Responsively)*

*Dennis Lesher*

When humans deface God's image, The whole world suffers:

**We abuse the creation or idolize it. We are estranged from our Creator, from our neighbor, from our true selves, and from all that God has made.**

Therefore let us confess our sins.

#### **Prayer of Confession**

*Dennis Lesher*

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **Time for Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Pardon** *(Responsively)*

*Dennis Lesher*

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me,  
and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

*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***

**Invitation** As God's dear children, then, take him as your pattern, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*He Touched Me*

*Dennis Leshner*

 **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**

Gracious God, we give our best, lest in gaining the world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to witness to your will and way. Help us to know more clearly what you would have us do with the wealth entrusted to our care. As we contribute to the needs of your people, we present ourselves as living sacrifices. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

 **Hymn 58**

*This is My Father's World*

### Proclaiming

***God speaks to us through His Word***

**Children's Sermon**

*Adam and Eve & the Sneaky Snake*

*Susan  
Obenschain*

**Scripture Reading**

*Genesis 3:1-7*

**3** Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden'?"

**2** The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. **3** But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, 'You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.'"

**4** "No! You will certainly not die," the serpent said to the woman. **5** "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **6** The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves


together and made coverings for themselves.

**Sermon**                      *"The Original Sin"*

*Rev. Tim Latham*

 **Hymn 382**                      *Be Thou My Vision*

**Responding**  
***We respond to God's Word***

 **Profession of Faith**    *(Heidelberg Catechism)*

My only comfort in life and in death is  
that I am not my own,  
but belong—  
body and soul,  
in life and in death—  
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.  
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,  
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.  
He also watches over me in such a way  
that not a hair can fall from my head  
without the will of my Father in heaven:  
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.  
Because I belong to him,  
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,  
assures me of eternal life  
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready  
from now on to live for him.

**Prayers of the People**

**Commissioning**  
***God sends us out into the world as His witnesses***

 **Praise Song**                      *Psalms 126*

Verse 1  
Our mouths, they were filled  
Filled with laughter;  
Our tongues, they were loosed,  
Loosed with joy.  
Restore us, O Lord.  
Restore us, O Lord.

Chorus

Although we are weeping,  
Lord, help us keep sowing  
The seeds of Your kingdom  
For the day You will reap them!  
Your sheaves we will carry, Lord, please do not tarry!  
All those who sow weeping  
Will go out with songs of joy!

Verse 2

The nations will say,  
"He has done great things!"  
The nations will sing  
Songs of joy.  
Restore us, O Lord.  
Restore us, O Lord.

Chorus (2x)

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**

*Today's prayer partner is Doreen Newby*