

13th Sunday After Pentecost

September 7, 2025

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)*


John Steinginga

Great and marvelous are your deeds,
Lord God Almighty.
**Just and true are your ways,
King of the nations.**
Who will not fear you, Lord,
and bring glory to your name?
**For you alone are holy.
All nations will come and worship before you.**
—Revelation 15:3-4, NIV

 **INVOCATION**

John Steinginga

Almighty and loving God,
you have given us eyes
to see the light that fills this room;
give us the inward vision
to behold you in this place.
You have made us feel
the morning wind upon our limbs;
help us to sense your presence
as we bow in worship of you. **Amen.**

 **OPENING HYMN 493** *It Is Well With My Soul*

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

John Steinginga

Since we have confidence
to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,
by the new and living way that he opened for us
through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),
and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith,
with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience
and our bodies washed with pure water.
—Hebrews 10:19-22, NRSV

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Steinginga

Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you. You constantly call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, as you come to us in mercy, we repent in spirit and in truth, admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. **Amen.**

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John Steinginga

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.

—Romans 5:1-2, 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*



PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

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

INVITATION Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being. In the company of the upright, let us honor God for the blessings and goodness we have received.

—based on Psalm 111:1

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *The Lord is My Salvation
(Pamela & Thomas intro to the Congregation)*



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

O Lord our God, the author and giver of all good things, we thank you for all your mercies, and for your loving care over all your creatures.

We bless you for the gift of life, for your protection round about us,
for your guiding hand upon us, and for the tokens of your love within us.

In all these things, O heavenly God, make us wise for a right use of your benefits, that we may render an acceptable thanksgiving unto you
all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PREPARATION SONG *Blessed Be Your Name (See Screen)*

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(Responsively)*

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let my heart always welcome your love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING *Joshua 1:1-9*

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: **2** "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. **3** I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. **4** Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. **5** No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. **6** Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

7 "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. **8** Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

SERMON *"A Church in Transition"* *Rev. Dr. Dennis Leshner*

HYMN OF RESPONSE 405 *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place*

RESPONDING: *We respond to God's Word*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come

PROFESSION OF FAITH *(Apostle's Creed, In Unison)*


I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.

COMMISSIONING: *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

COMMISSION HYMN 345 *Blessed Assurance*

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

 *Please stand if you are able.*