***AUGUST 31, 2025***

**Prelude**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, arr. Wendy Stevens

*How Great Is Our God,* arr. Melody Bober

*Open the Eyes of My Heart*, arr. Melody Bober

**Welcome and Congregational Life**

**Time of Silence and Ringing of the Gathering Bell**

**\*Call to Worship**

O God, who created the heavens and stretched them out,

**we praise you!**

You made the earth and all that lives here:

**we praise you!**

You give breath to all creatures and your Spirit to your people:

**we praise and thank you, O God!**

That the eyes of the blinded be opened, the poor hear the good news, the captives be brought out of darkness, the wealth of the world serve the good of all,

**your kingdom come, O God; your will be done!**

**\*Song of Praise** *That’s Why We Praise Him*

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Forgiveness**

God, we celebrate the work of your Spirit encouraging people the world over to work for justice and peace, to speak for the voiceless and always to anticipate that the best is yet to come.

**Blessed be your name.**

If, however, we have driven a wedge between piety and peacemaking, erected a wall between prayer and politics, associated the purposes of heaven with only the gentler things of earth - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

If we have offered to false gods the devotion you alone deserve; if we have dismissed the Gospel as irrelevant to the world - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

If we have dumbed down your Word and domesticated your Spirit because we wanted an easier faith and a tamer dove - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

Wherever in our nations the poor are endangered, the sick are neglected, prisoners are refused redemption, and strangers among us are suspected - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

Wherever in our world the lust for profit undermines the longing for peace; or the greed for power overrides the need for fairness - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

In the prison, visitor and the mediator, in vigils for peace and protests to protect the earth; to all who fear for the future of children, to those who long for a different day - God of justice,

**show yourself.**

By your work, Jesus, we are forgiven and redeemed, and so let us live that way by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Response to Reconciliation** *How Great Is Our God*

**Children’s Message**

**Scripture Reading**  John 19:16-30

**Message** Rev. Tyler Burke

**\*Hymn of Affirmation** *Come Thou Fount* #475

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *Nicene Creed*

**Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer**

**Expressions of Gratitude and Faith Through Our Offerings**

Offering baskets are located near the exit doors.

**Offertory** *Wade in the Water*, arr. Wendy Stevens

**\*Doxology** #606

**\*Sending Song** *Because We Believe*

**\*Charge**

**We are the Body of Christ: Serving our community with the good news of Jesus Christ, and the transforming love of God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**\*Ringing of the Sending Bell**

**\*Benediction**

God bless each of us as we travel on: may we discover tables spread in the wilderness and companions on the road.

**Amen.**

**Postlude** *Go Forth*, by Frances Goei