

**Knox & St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 10, 2023**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

Sing to the Lord a new song.

**We will worship God, our Maker!**

Let us praise God with song and dance,

**For God is gracious and loving!**

Let us bring God glory and honour,

**For God deserves our praise.**

**Hymn 435 All things bright and beautiful**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.**

**1. Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours;  
God made their tiny wings.**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.**

**2. The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
God made them, every one.**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.**

**3. The rocky mountain splendour,  
the haunting curlew's call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,**

**the forests in the fall,**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.**

**4. God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God almighty  
who has made all things well.**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.**

**Prayer of Praise**      *(minister)*

**Hymn**      **410 Joyful, joyful we adore you**

**1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.**

**Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day!**

**2. All your works with joy surround you;  
earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain  
join to praise you joyfully.**

**3. You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blessed,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean-depth of happy rest!**

**God Creator, Christ our Saviour,  
all are yours who live in love.  
Teach us how to love our neighbour,  
Lift us to your joy above.**

**4. Morning stars, awake the chorus,  
mortals join in every part,  
for what joy is set before us  
as Christ's love joins heart to heart!  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.**

### **Prayer of Confession (congregation)**

**Although Christ is among us as our peace, we confess we are  
a people divided, within ourselves and against each other.**

**We cling to the values and habits of a broken world. The  
profit and pleasures we pursue harm creation and the lives  
of others. The fears and jealousies we harbour set neighbour  
against neighbour, and nation against nation.**

**The freedom and abundance we enjoy belong mostly to a  
few, when they are God's gift to all. Have mercy upon us, O  
God.**

**Heal us, forgive us, and set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

**- silent confession -**

### **The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)**

**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, the power, and the glory. For ever  
and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn 267 Rejoice the Lord is King**

- 1. Rejoice, the Lord is King;  
your sovereign Lord adore;  
give thanks, O mortals, sing  
and triumph ever more.  
Lift up your heart;  
lift up your voice; rejoice,  
again I say, rejoice.**
- 2. For Christ the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when Jesus purged our stains,  
he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart;  
lift up your voice; rejoice,  
again I say, rejoice.**
- 3. His reign can never fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven:  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Saviour given.  
Lift up your heart;  
lift up your voice; rejoice,  
again I say, rejoice.**
- 4. He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit  
and bow to his command  
and fall beneath his feet.  
Lift up your heart;  
lift up your voice; rejoice,  
again I say, rejoice.**
- 5. Rejoice in glorious hope,  
for Christ the judge shall come  
and take the faithful up  
to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear  
the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound: rejoice.**

## Responsive Reading Psalm 149 p. 591 NT & Psalms

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song.

Sing his praises in the assembly of the faithful.

<sup>2</sup>**O Israel, rejoice in your Maker.**

**O people of Jerusalem, exult in your King.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise his name with dancing,

accompanied by tambourine and harp.

<sup>4</sup>**For the Lord delights in his people;**

**he crowns the humble with victory.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the faithful rejoice that he honors them.

Let them sing for joy as they lie on their beds.

<sup>6</sup>**Let the praises of God be in their mouths,**

**and a sharp sword in their hands—**

<sup>7</sup>to execute vengeance on the nations

and punishment on the peoples,

<sup>8</sup>**to bind their kings with shackles**

**and their leaders with iron chains,**

<sup>9</sup>**to execute the judgment written against them.**

**This is the glorious privilege of his faithful ones.**

**Praise the Lord!**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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### Scripture Lessons

Exodus 12:1-14      p. 53 pew Bible

Romans 13:8-14      p. 277 NT & Psalms

Matthew 18:15-20      p. 36 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God!***

**Sermon    It all comes back to love**

**Prayers of the People    (*minister*)**

**Hymn      444    Sweet is the solemn voice**

**1. Sweet is the solemn voice that calls**

**the Christian to the house of prayer;**

**I love to stand within its walls,**

**for you, O Lord, are present there.**

**2. I love to walk within the courts**

**where two or three for worship meet,**

for it is there that Christ resorts  
to make their holy bond complete.

3. How good to raise our common song!  
Joining in holy praise and love,  
we imitate the blessed throng,  
uniting hearts and songs above.

4. Within these walls may peace abound;  
may all our hearts in one agree,  
and where we meet, where Christ is found,  
may peace and concord ever be.

### Offering & Offertory

**\*Doxology**      830 **Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### Prayer of Dedication      (congregation)

Gracious God, receive these gifts, offered in a spirit of  
generosity and humility. Bless and use them for the work  
that you long to do in the world you love for Jesus' sake.  
Amen.

**Hymn**      431 **Jesus, where'er thy people meet**

1. Jesus, where'er thy people meet,  
there they behold thy mercy seat;  
where'er they seek thee thou art found,  
and every place is hallowed ground.

2. Here may we prove the power of prayer  
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,  
to teach our faint desires to rise,  
and bring all heaven before our eyes.

3. Lord, we are few, but thou art near,  
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;  
oh rend the heavens, come quickly down  
and make a thousand hearts thine own.

### Choral Blessing

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

**God will be with you each hour of every day.**

**God will be there, watching from above.**

**Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

**Benediction**

**Three-fold Amen**

**Piano Postlude**