

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 25, 2024

Responsive Call to Worship

God hears our cries for help and rescues us from all our troubles.

God draws near the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

God redeems the life of all people; none who take refuge in God will be condemned.

So, let us worship the One lifts us to new life and praise God's holy name.

Hymn 821 Sun of my soul, my Saviour dear

**1. Sun of my soul, my Saviour dear,
it is not night if you are near;
oh may no earthborn cloud arise
to hide you from your servant's eyes.**

**2. When the soft dews of kindly sleep
my wearied eyelids gently steep,
be my last thought: How sweet to rest
forever on my Saviour's breast.**

**3. Watch by the sick; enrich the poor
with blessings from your boundless store;
be every mourner's sleep tonight,
like infants' slumbers, pure and light.**

**4. Come near and bless us when we wake,
as through the world our way we take,
till in the ocean of your love
we lose ourselves in heaven above.**

Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

Hymn 746 What a friend we have in Jesus

**1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear;
what a privilege to carry
every thing to God in prayer.
Oh what peace we often forfeit,
oh what needless pain we bear,**

**all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.**

2. Have we trials and temptations?

Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged:

take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful,

who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness:

take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,

cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Saviour, still our refuge:

take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?

Take it to the Lord in prayer;

in his arms he'll take and shield thee;

thou wilt find a solace there.

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

**God of mercy, with the community of Christ's church
gathered here and elsewhere, we confess that we have
sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole hearts, nor have we
cared for your world or respected our neighbours as we
should.**

- 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 682 Just as I am, without one plea

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee I find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 84

p. 533 NT & Psalms

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,

O Lord of Heaven's Armies.

**² I long, yes, I faint with longing
to enter the courts of the Lord.**

**With my whole being, body and soul,
I will shout joyfully to the living God.**

³ Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young
at a place near your altar,

O Lord of Heaven's Armies, my King and my God!

**⁴ What joy for those who can live in your house,
always singing your praises.**

⁵ What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord,
who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

**⁶ When they walk through the Valley of Weeping,
it will become a place of refreshing springs.**

The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings.

⁷ They will continue to grow stronger,

and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem.

⁸ O Lord God of Heaven's Armies, hear my prayer.

Listen, O God of Jacob.

⁹ O God, look with favor upon the king, our shield!

Show favor to the one you have anointed.

¹⁰ A single day in your courts

is better than a thousand anywhere else!

I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God

than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.

¹¹ For the Lord God is our sun and our shield.

He gives us grace and glory.

The Lord will withhold no good thing

from those who do what is right.

¹² O Lord of Heaven's Armies,

what joy for those who trust in you.

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 p. 272 pew Bible

Ephesians 6:10-20 p. 339 New Testament with Psalms

John 6:56-69 p. 170 New Testament with Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Not actual military!

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Hymn 633 Who would true valour see

**1. Who would true valour see
let them come hither:
here's one will constant be
come wind, come weather.
There's no discouragement
shall make me once relent
my first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.**

**2. Who so beset me round
with dismal stories
do but themselves confound:
my strength the more is.**

**No foes shall stay my might;
though I with giants fight,
but I will have the right
to be a pilgrim.**

**3. Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt my spirit:
I know I at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, flee away!
Fear not what others say;
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.**

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)

**God of growth and goodness, we offer what we have to
share, knowing that others have lost their crops and worry
for the future. Bless our gifts and use them to spread seeds
of hope and wellbeing among those whose future is
uncertain, for the sake of Christ, the Bread of Life. Amen.**

Hymn 468 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing

**1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh refresh us, oh refresh us,
traveling through life's wilderness.**

**2. We give thanks and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
May your presence, may your presence
with us evermore be found,**

**3. so that when your love shall call us,
Saviour, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
live in you in endless day.**

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