

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2023

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*“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ has forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:32*

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### INTROIT

Jesus Loves Me!

Tune: JESUS LOVES ME

*The Children's Choir and Youth Handbell Choir  
Tanner King, director; Deanie Strength, pianist*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF ADORATION

### \*HYMN

No. 624

Tune: TOULON

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty and Merciful God: We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us and spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; and grant that we may live according to the promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### KYRIE

No. 575

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

### DECLARATION OF PARDON

### \*GLORIA PATRI

No. 581

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. Amen, amen.

### \*WORDS OF PEACE

Minister: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
People: And also with you.  
(Please greet your neighbors with words of God's peace.)

### WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Registers at this time.)

### INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN

**P.A.C.K. Dedication**

**ANTHEM**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven  
*The Chancel Choir*

Mark Andrews

**UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Let us take refuge in your grace and love, O God, that experiencing your forgiveness, we might forget old wrongs and grant forgiveness to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Genesis 50:15-21

Page 48

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Matthew 18:21-35

Page 20

**SERMON**

“Settling Accounts and Practicing Forgiveness”  
*“A king wished to settle accounts with his slaves....” Matthew 18:23*

Dr. Williams

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from The Confession of 1967

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in human life. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for all when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to us, moves us to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of who we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand except God’s grace. The new life does not release us from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, fear. We still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as we mature in love and faithfulness in our life with Christ, we live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others. Amen.

**\*HYMN**

No. 444

*Tune:* DETROIT

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

**THE PRAYERS AND OFFERING****AT THE OFFERTORY**

I Then Shall Live

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Tanner King, tenor; Jeff Lewis, pianist*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

No. 300

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
 and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,  
 and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one;  
 And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
 yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER****\*HYMN**

No. 316

*Tune:* TWENTY-FOURTH

Where Charity and Love Prevail

**\*BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

No. 306

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

**\*POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune in F Major

David German

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\*Congregation please stand in body or in spirit.

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR** marks the beginning of the Lord's Day service. The prelude is a time for quiet preparation and private prayer as the congregation prepares to worship God.

**GREETER:** Charlotte Keenoy... **USHERS:** Michael Johnson, head usher, Tommy Johnson, Melissa Lee, Scott Atchinson, and Breezy Atchinson.... **ACOLYTE:** Cole Longley...  
**EXTENDED SESSION TEACHERS:** Beth Longley and Whitney Peteranetz.

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by Jenell Griffith to the glory of God, in memory of Ben F. Griffith and in honor of Trapper Griffith's birthday.