

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 16, 2024**

**Gathering**  
*God invites us to enter His presence*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

**! Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

*Dennis Lesher*

All who thirst, come to the water.  
Come, all who are weary;  
come, all who yearn for forgiveness.  
The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us,  
and our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses us.  
Drink deeply of these living waters.  
**Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.**

**! Invocation** (*Responsively*)

*Dennis Lesher*

O Lord, our God, creator of our land,  
our earth, the trees, the animals and humans,  
all is for your honor.  
**The drums beat it out, and people sing about it,  
and they dance with noisy joy that you are the Lord.**  
You also have pulled the other continents out of the sea.  
What a wonderful world you have made out of wet mud  
and what beautiful men and women!  
We thank you for all the beauty of this earth.  
**The grace of your creation is like a cool day between  
rainy seasons. We drink in your creation with our eyes.  
We listen to the birds' jubilee with our ears.**  
How strong and good and sure your earth smells,  
and everything that grows here.  
We drink in your creation and cannot get enough of it.  
**Bless our land and people.  
Prepare us for the service we should render. Amen.**

**! Opening Hymn 1**

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Confessing  
*God invites us to be honest with Him*

**Call to Confession**

*Dennis Lesher*

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

—based on Romans 8:39

**Prayer of Confession** *(Responsively)*

*Dennis Lesher*

Father, we are sorry for the many times we have left you and chosen to satisfy our own selfish desires.

For the times we have hurt the members of our families by refusing to do our share of the family tasks.

**Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.**

For the times we were unkind and impatient with those who needed our time and concern.

**Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.**

For the times we were too weak to stand up for what was right and allowed others to suffer because of our cowardice.

**Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.**

For the times we refused to forgive others.

**Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.**

**Time for Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Dennis Lesher*

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;  
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted,  
and binds up their wounds.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
his understanding is beyond measure.

—Psalm 147:2-3, 5, 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.*

## Offering

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

**Invitation** I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God— this is your true and proper worship.  
—Romans 12:1, NIV

### **Offering**

**Offertory** *My Lighthouse (by Rend Collective)  
Natalie, Brady, & Evey DiPietrae*

### **! 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**

Gracious God, everything we have comes from you. You fill us with good things. Our hearts and lives overflow with your abundance. With thanksgiving, we bring to you our time, talents, and tithes. Use these gifts that you have given us to feed others as we have been fed, to serve others as we have been served, and to bless others as we have been blessed, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### **! Preparation Song**

*He Will Hold Me Fast*

*Verse 1*  
*When I fear my faith will fail,*  
*Christ will hold me fast.*  
*When the tempter would prevail,*  
*He will hold me fast.*  
*I could never keep my hold*  
*Through life's fearful path;*  
*For my love is often cold*  
*He must hold me fast.*

*Chorus*  
*He will hold me fast,*  
*He will hold me fast;*  
*For my Savior loves me so,*  
*He will hold me fast.*

*Verse 2*  
*Those He saves are His delight,*  
*Christ will hold me fast;*  
*Precious in His holy sight,*  
*He will hold me fast.*  
*He'll not let my soul be lost;*

*His Promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost,  
He will hold me fast.*

*Chorus*

*Verse 3  
For my life He bled and died,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied;  
He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life,  
He will hold me fast  
'Till our faith is turned to sight,  
When He comes at last!*

*Chorus (2 x)*

**Proclaiming**  
***God speaks to us through His Word***

**Scripture Reading**                      *Genesis 13:1-18*

**13** Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev—he, his wife, and all he had, and Lot with him. <sup>2</sup>Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold. <sup>3</sup>He went by stages from the Negev to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had formerly been, <sup>4</sup>to the site where he had built the altar. And Abram called on the name of the LORD there.

<sup>5</sup>Now Lot, who was traveling with Abram, also had flocks, herds, and tents. <sup>6</sup>But the land was unable to support them as long as they stayed together, for they had so many possessions that they could not stay together, <sup>7</sup>and there was quarreling between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. (At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land.)

<sup>8</sup>So Abram said to Lot, "Please, let's not have quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, since we are relatives. <sup>9</sup>Isn't the whole land before you? Separate from me: if you go to the left, I will go to the right; if you go to the right, I will go to the left."

<sup>10</sup>Lot looked out and saw that the entire plain of the Jordan as far as Zoar was well watered everywhere like the LORD's garden and the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) <sup>11</sup>So Lot chose the entire plain of the Jordan for himself. Then Lot journeyed eastward, and they separated from each other. <sup>12</sup>Abram lived in the land of Canaan, but Lot lived in the cities on the plain and set up his tent near Sodom. <sup>13</sup>(Now the men of Sodom were evil, sinning immensely against the LORD.)

<sup>14</sup>After Lot had separated from him, the LORD said to Abram, "Look from the place where you are. Look north and south, east and west, <sup>15</sup>for I will give you and your offspring forever all the land that you see. <sup>16</sup>I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust of the earth, then your offspring could be counted. <sup>17</sup>Get up and walk around the land, through its length and width, for I will give it to you."

<sup>18</sup>So Abram moved his tent and went to live near the oaks of Mamre at Hebron, where he built an altar to the LORD.

**Sermon**

*"Abram and Lot Separate"*  
*Rev. Tim Latham*

! Hymn of Response 461     *He Leadeth Me*

**Responding**  
*We respond to God's Word*

! Profession of Faith *(In Unison)*

Christ Jesus,  
though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
to the glory of God:  
**Jesus Christ is Lord!**

—from Philippians 2:5-11, NRSV

Prayers of the People

**Commissioning**  
*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

! Commission Song     *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken  
Jesus I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee  
Destitute, despised, forsaken  
Thou from hence my all shalt be  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known  
Yet how rich is my condition,  
God and heaven are still my own.*

*Let the world despise and leave me  
They have left my savior too  
Human hearts and looks deceive me,  
Thou art not like them untrue  
Oh while thou dost smile upon me,*

*God of wisdom, love and might  
Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
Show thy face and all is bright.*

*Man they trouble and distress me,  
Twill but drive me to thy breast  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest  
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me,  
While thy love is left to me  
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with thee.*

*Go then earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In thy service pain is pleasure,  
With thy favor loss is gain  
I have called thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on thee  
Storms may howl and clouds may gather,  
All must work for good to me.*

*Soul then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station,  
Something still to do or bear  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine  
Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.*

*Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith and winged by prayer  
Heaven's eternal day's before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide thee there  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight and prayer to praise.*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**