

**12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 11, 2024**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence


Prelude *Allegro Concertante, Mozart; Ode to Joy, Beethoven*
Flute Ensemble
(Ali Backlund, Holly Backinstose, Rebecca Wentzel)

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **Call to Worship** *Bonnie Mecaughey*

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.”
—Matthew 11:28-29, NIV

 **Invocation** *(Responsively)* *Bonnie Mecaughey*

Praise be to you, LORD,
the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
**Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,**
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.
**Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.**
Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.
**In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.**
Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.
—1 Chronicles 29:10-13, NIV

 **Opening Hymn 6** *Sing Praise to God who Reigns Above*

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession *Bonnie Mecaughey*

Since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,

by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

—Hebrews 10:19-22, NRSV

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Bonnie Mecaughey

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Bonnie Mecaughey

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

—Romans 8:1, NIV

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 With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy.
With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love.
With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.

Offering

Offertory

Offertory *Sweet Hour of Prayer* *Walford/Bradbury*
(Flute Ensemble) Arranged by Pamela M. Johnson

 **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**

O Mighty One, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you— our selves, our time, and our possessions—that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.
Amen.

 **Preparation Song**

Psalm 126

Verse 1

*Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter
Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy*

Pre-Chorus

*Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord*

Chorus

*Although we are weeping
Lord, help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
For the day You will reap them
Your sheaves we will carry
Lord, please do not tarry
All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

Verse 2

*The nations will say, "He has done great things!"
The nations will sing songs of joy*

Pre-Chorus

*Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord*

Chorus

Outro

*All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy
All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy
All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 21:8-21

⁸ The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham held a great feast on the day Isaac was weaned. ⁹ But Sarah saw the son mocking—the one Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham. ¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, “Drive out this slave with her son, for the son of this slave will not be a coheir with my son Isaac!”

¹¹ This was very distressing to Abraham because of his son. ¹² But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed about the boy and about your slave. Whatever Sarah says to you, listen to her, because your offspring will be traced through Isaac, ¹³ and I will also make a nation of the slave’s son because he is your offspring.”

¹⁴ Early in the morning Abraham got up, took bread and a waterskin, put them on Hagar’s shoulders, and sent her and the boy away. She left and wandered in the Wilderness of Beer-sheba. ¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she left the boy under one of the bushes ¹⁶ and went and sat at a distance, about a bowshot away, for she said, “I can’t bear to watch the boy die!” While she sat at a distance, she wept loudly.

¹⁷ God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What’s wrong, Hagar? Don’t be afraid, for God has heard the boy crying from the place where he is. ¹⁸ Get up, help the boy up, and grasp his hand, for I will make him a great nation.” ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well. So she went and filled the waterskin and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew; he settled in the wilderness and became an archer. ²¹ He settled in the Wilderness of Paran, and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Sermon

*“God Hears the Crying”
Rev. Tim Latham*



Hymn of Response 51

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Responding

We respond to God’s Word



Profession of Faith *(In Unison)*

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God’s purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Commission Song

Revelation Song

Verse 1

*Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat*

Chorus

*Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You*

Verse 2

*Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King*

Verse 3

*Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah*



Benediction & Blessing



Postlude

*Allegro Maestoso
(Flute Ensemble)*

Handel