

**14th Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2024**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

✠ Call to Worship (*Responsively*)

Hob Pusey

God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some with laughter and songs of joy.
God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some from a sense of obligation or habit.
God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some with hearts heavy with grief.
God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some with distraction or exhaustion.
God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some with eagerness and enthusiasm.
God calls us to worship, **and we come**,
some with stress, loneliness, or depression.
As God's dearly loved children,
we bring all our joy and pain, hurt and hope
into this place of Spirit-given grace, love, and hope.

✠ Invocation (*Responsively*)

Hob Pusey

We give thanks to you, God our Father,
for mercy that reaches out,
for patience that waits our returning,
for your love that is ever ready
to welcome sinners.
**We praise you that in Jesus Christ
you came to us with forgiveness,
and that, by your Holy Spirit,
you move us to repent
and receive your love.**
Though we are sinners,
you are faithful and worthy of all praise.
**We praise you, great God,
in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

 **Opening Hymn 468**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Hob Pusey

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

—Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Hob Pusey

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

—based on Psalm 51:10-12

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hob Pusey

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,
so that, free from sins,
we might live for righteousness;
by his wounds you have been healed.

—1 Peter 2:24, 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 The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world,
and those who live in it.
—Psalm 24:1, NRSV

Offering

Offertory *It is Well with My Soul*
John & Lila Steinginga

! 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

Merciful God, always out to save, friend of the suffering,
foe of all who cause suffering, with these gifts we join your greater
work in the world, confident of your final victory through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

! Preparation Song *Lord, I Need You*

Verse 1
Lord, I Come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus
Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.
Every hour I need You. My one defense, my righteousness;
Oh, God, how I need you.

Verse 2
Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

Chorus

Bridge
So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Chorus

Tag

*You're my one defense: my righteousness; oh, God, how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, oh, God, how I need You.*

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 11:8-16

⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and set out for a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed as a foreigner in the land of promise, living in tents as did Isaac and Jacob, coheirs of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith even Sarah herself, when she was unable to have children, received power to conceive offspring, even though she was past the age, since she considered that the one who had promised was faithful. ¹² Therefore, from one man—in fact, from one as good as dead—came offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and as innumerable as the grains of sand along the seashore.

¹³ These all died in faith, although they had not received the things that were promised. But they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that they were foreigners and temporary residents on the earth. ¹⁴ Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Sermon

*“By Faith”
Rev. Tim Latham*



Song of Response

By Faith

Getty

Verse 1

*By faith we see the hand of God,
In the light of creation's grand design,
In the lives of those who prove his faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.*

Verse 2

*By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts,
Of a holy city built by God's own hand,
A place where peace and justice reign.*

Refrain

*We will stand as children of the promise;
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

Verse 3

*By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave.*

Verse 4

*By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth.*

Refrain

Verse 5

*By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name.*

Refrain

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** *(In Unison)*

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.**

—from Colossians 1:15-20, NRSV

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

 **Commission Hymn 552** *On Jordan's Stormy Banks*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**

