

## Sixth Sunday After Pentecost July 20, 2025

**GATHERING:** *God invites us to enter His presence*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP** *(Time for Silent Preparation)*



**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)*

*John Steinginga*

When Moses gathered the people of Israel, God said,  
**"I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
out of the house of slavery."**  
As we gather here today,  
let us worship the Lord,  
who continues to be our God  
and who still brings us out of the places of our bondage.  
—based on Exodus 20:1-2



**INVOCATION**

*John Steinginga*

O Lord, our God,  
you are always more ready to give your good gifts to us  
than we are to seek them,  
and you are willing to give more than we desire or deserve.  
Help us so to seek that we may truly find,  
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,  
so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**



**OPENING HYMN 51** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**CONFESSING:** *God invites us to be honest with Him*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

*John Steinginga*

"Come now, let us settle the matter,"  
says the LORD.  
"Though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson,  
they shall be like wool."  
—Isaiah 1:18, NIV

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*John Steinginga*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.  
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,

and what has become for us  
a consuming fire of judgment.  
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace  
to grow more and more in your likeness and image;  
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. **Amen.**

## TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*John Steinginga*

The LORD is faithful in all his words,  
and gracious in all his deeds.  
The LORD upholds all who are falling,  
and raises up all who are bowed down.  
—Psalm 145:13-14, 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*



### PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You*  
***All: And also with you***

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

**INVITATION** How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help? Dear children, let us love, not in word or speech, but also in truth and action.  
—from 1 John 3:17-18, NRSV

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY



### 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

Lord God, we bless you for all your many gifts to us.  
We return these gifts as a token of our gratitude,  
longing for the conviction and strength

to offer our whole lives to your service.  
We pray especially today for your blessing on these offerings.  
Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



**PREPARATION SONG**

*Abide with Me (See Screen)*

**PROCLAIMING:** *God speaks to us through His Work*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Colossians 1:1-14*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, and Timothy our brother:

<sup>2</sup> To the saints in Christ at Colossae, who are faithful brothers and sisters.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup> for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints <sup>5</sup> because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You have already heard about this hope in the word of truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. It is bearing fruit and growing all over the world, just as it has among you since the day you heard it and came to truly appreciate God's grace. <sup>7</sup> You learned this from Epaphras, our dearly loved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup> and he has told us about your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding <sup>10</sup> so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God, <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. <sup>14</sup> In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**SERMON**

*"Paul's Pastoral Prayer"*  
*Rev. Daniel Stewart*



**HYMN OF RESPONSE 52**

*O God Our Help in Ages Past*

**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

**COMMISSIONING**: *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

 **COMMISSION SONG**    *10,000 Reasons*

**BENEDICTION & BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

 *Please stand if you are able.*