

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost August 10, 2025

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (*Time for Silent Preparation*)



CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Lift up your heads, you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.

**Lift up your heads, you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is he, this King of glory?

**The LORD Almighty—
he is the King of glory.**

—Psalm 24:7-10, NIV



INVOCATION

Bonnie Mecaughey

Lord, open to us the sea of your mercy,
and water us with full streams
from the riches of your grace
and the springs of your kindness.
Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace;
kindle in us the fire of your love,
and strengthen our weakness by your power
as we become close to you and to each other. **Amen.**



OPENING HYMN 347

Be Still, My Soul

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bonnie Mecaughey

God's Word assures us:
If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

—based on 1 John 1:8-9, NRSV

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Responsively)*

Bonnie Mecaughey

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

Bonnie Mecaughey

Hear the good news!
There is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.
For the law of the Spirit
of life in Christ Jesus
has set you free from the law of sin and death.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone;
a new life has begun.
Know that in Jesus,
God embraces you, forgives you,
and strengthens you to live a renewed life.
Thanks be to God.

—based on Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17

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

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you:
Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

—Romans 12:1, TM

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Nobody by "Counting Crowns"
DiPietrae Family: Natalie, Brady, Evey



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

Ever-giving God, source of all goodness and charity, your ear is always open to our needs. When we cry to you, you are faithful and provide for us. With joy we bring our thanksgiving. For all your mercies, we return to you from our abundance. All that we give, we dedicate to your glory. All that we keep, we commit to your care, for we are only stewards of your bounty. Bless what we give and what we keep, for all is your creation. Amen.



PREPARATION SONG

My Soul Will Wait (See Screen)

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:28-39

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ 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.

SERMON

"Redefining 'Good' and 'Bad'"
Rev. Steve Wilson



HYMN OF RESPONSE 213

Because He Lives

RESPONDING: *We respond to God's Word*



PROFESSION OF FAITH (*Nicene Creed, In Unison*)

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Eternal God, our Father, you are the source of our being,
the breath of our life, and the joy of our living.
We know that you delight in the worship of your children
and that you eagerly send your Holy Spirit upon us.
As your Spirit came upon your people of old,
giving them understanding and the knowledge of truth,
so send your Spirit today,
that we may speak in words not taught by human wisdom,
but taught by the Spirit.
Your Spirit came upon the prophets.
You sent your Spirit to your Son and your church,


giving them each power and wisdom to follow your ways,
speak your truth, and accomplish your purposes.
So grant us your Spirit with all fruit and equipping gifts,
that we may reflect your glory and the world might believe,
for the honor of your holy name. Amen.

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

 **COMMISSION SONG** *Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death*

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

 *Please stand if you are able.*