

15th Sunday After Pentecost
September 21, 2025

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE *The Lord is My Salvation*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)* *Jim Fox*

“Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.”

What did God do to help us?

God chose the people of Israel to make a new beginning.

**They received God’s covenant and prepared the way
for Jesus to come as our Savior.**

Let us worship the God of the covenant, the God of heaven and
earth.

—based on Psalm 124:8

 **INVOCATION** *Jim Fox*

O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you,
wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you.

Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you,
eyes to behold you, ears to listen for your Word,
a heart to love you, and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

 **OPENING HYMN 228** *Rejoice, The Lord is King*

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim Fox

The apostle John wrote:
My little children,
I am writing these things to you
so that you may not sin.
But if anyone does sin,
we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;
and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
In the strength of this assurance,
let us confess our sins to God.
—based on 1 John 2:1-2, NRSV

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jim Fox

Holy God, we groan at our weaknesses, and we ask forgiveness.
Your Word is so clear, and your grace is so good.
But we close our ears to your call,
and with our perverse pride we foul the gifts you have given us.
Like your servant Paul, we know what you require of us;
yet, like Paul, what we do is not the good we want to do,
and the evil we do not want to do, that evil we keep on doing.
We mistreat those we love,
and we dishonor you, the One who made us.
How long, O Lord, will we continue to ignore your will?
Yet you provide streams of living mercy;
you invite us again and again to live renewed lives.
So we turn once again to the cross,
to the empty cross, to the stone rolled away,
to our interceding Lord Jesus Christ seated at your right hand,
to the gracious gift of your Spirit. **Amen.**

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jim Fox

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*

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS *(See Insert)*

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Introductions

Grace Butler, Kathy O’Keeffe, Elizabeth Dilks and (Susan Obenschain to be installed at a later date) - *Deacons*
Dan Baker, Dan Obenschain, and Doreen Newby -Elders

*(Please remain in your pew & stand when your name is read,
after all the names are read please come forward)*

Questions to Grace Butler, Kathy O’Keeffe and Elizabeth Dilks on being ordained as Deacons and Doreen Newby as Elder.

Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your own personal Lord and Savior? Do you?

Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice? Do you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of faith and the catechisms of this church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures? Do you?

Do you promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with the system of doctrine as taught in the scriptures and as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church you will on your own initiative make known to your Church Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow? Do you?

Do you affirm and adopt the Essentials of our Faith without exception? Do you?

Do you promise to subscribe to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?

Do you promise to be subject to your fellow officers in the Lord? Do you?

Installation Questions to Dan Baker, Dan Obenschain and Doreen Newby on being installed as Ruling Elders; and to Grace Butler, Kathy O’Keeffe and Elizabeth Dilks on being installed as Deacons.

To Dan Baker, Dan Obenschain

Do you now reaffirm the vows you took upon your Ordination and do you recommit yourself to them in discharge of your obligation? Do you?

To all officers:

Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to Accept this office from love of God and sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son? Have you?

Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in promoting the truths of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise to you on that account? Do you?

Will you seek to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your Duties as an officer, whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before this congregation of which God will make you an officer? Will you?

Are you now willing to take responsibility in the life of this Congregation respectively as an Elder, or Deacon and will you seek to discharge your duties, relying upon the grace of God, in such a way that the entire Church of Jesus Christ will be blessed? Will you?

Question to the Congregation

Do you, the members of this congregation, receive these persons as Ruling Elders and Deacons, and do you continue your promise to yield them and all your officers all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which the ordination or installation as an officer entitles them, according to the word of God and the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?

(Ask for any Session members, previous Elders and Deacons to come forward for the laying of hands as we pray)

Prayer of Ordination

“Sovereign Lord, we ask You now that You anoint these Your Servants for the work that You are calling them to do. Give them the full measure of your Spirit so that they may become fully equipped. Give them the wisdom to lean on You and Your Word for advice. Give

them the courage to face the trials that will come their way. May Your presence abide, Your grace sustain and Your love keep them now and forever. Amen

Declaration

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 *Be Exalted O God*
Dan Baker, Dennis Leshner

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 God of all bounty, from your hand we have freely received.
Accept these offerings of your people as expressions of our thanks.
Lovingly remember those who have given, enrich the lives of those for whom these gifts are intended, and use these gifts to promote

goodwill and to bring your kingdom, for the sake of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

🕯️ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

🕯️ **PREPARATION SONG**

10,000 Reasons (See Screen)

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

—based on Psalm 85:8

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3:5-17

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing

psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

SERMON *“Dressing Up for Church”*
 Rev. Dan Stewart

HYMN OF RESPONSE 382 *Be Thou My Vision*

RESPONDING: *We respond to God’s Word*

PROFESSION OF FAITH *(In Unison)*

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
—*A Brief Statement of Faith*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE


Loving God, we offer these prayers,
joining our voices to the great chorus of those
who sing your praise and depend on you alone.
We long for that day when all your children
will live in your peace and praise your name.
Until that day, give us sturdy patience and enduring hope,
rooted only in Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

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

 **COMMISSION HYMN 285** *In Christ There is No East or West*

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

 *Please stand if you are able.*