

# Sunday, August 17, 2025 8:00 am Worship

#### Prelude

# Greeting

Whether you are joining us in person or on-line, know that we are here to journey along with you as you grow in love of God and neighbor, and as a follower of Jesus Christ.

# Remembering our Baptism

\* Hymn Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us UMH 381

# \*Call to Worship

God has called us like Moses in the wilderness, the prophets in the hills, and the disciples in the cities.

# They shared their blessings so that we might know God's presence here.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

\*Hymn O God of Every Nation UMH 435 First Lesson Hebrews 11:29-12:2 CEB

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> By faith they crossed the Red Sea as if they were on dry land, but when the Egyptians tried it, they were drowned.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> By faith Jericho's walls fell after the people marched around them for seven days.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute wasn't killed with the disobedient because she welcomed the spies in peace.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> What more can I say? I would run out of time if I told you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. <sup>33</sup> Through faith they conquered kingdoms, brought about justice, realized promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> put out raging fires, escaped from the edge of the sword, found strength in weakness, were mighty in war, and routed foreign armies. <sup>35</sup> Women received back

their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured and refused to be released so they could gain a better resurrection.

<sup>36</sup> But others experienced public shame by being taunted and whipped; they were even put in chains and in prison. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death, they were cut in two, and they died by being murdered with swords. They went around wearing the skins of sheep and goats, needy, oppressed, and mistreated. <sup>38</sup> The world didn't deserve them. They wandered around in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> All these people didn't receive what was promised, though they were given approval for their faith. <sup>40</sup> God provided something better for us so they wouldn't be made perfect without us.

So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, <sup>2</sup> and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne.

#### Word for Children

**Second Lesson** 

Luke 12:49-59

**CEB** 

<sup>49</sup> "I came to cast fire upon the earth. How I wish that it was already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism I must experience. How I am distressed until it's completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, I have come instead to bring division. <sup>52</sup> From now on, a household of five will be divided—three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup> Father will square off against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup> Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud forming in the west, you immediately say, 'It's going to rain.' And indeed it does. <sup>55</sup> And when a south wind blows, you say, 'A heat wave is coming.' And it does. <sup>56</sup> Hypocrites! You know how to interpret conditions on earth and in the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret the present time? <sup>57</sup> And why don't you judge for yourselves what is right? <sup>58</sup> As you are going to court with your accuser, make your best effort to reach a settlement along the way. Otherwise, your accuser may bring you before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. <sup>59</sup> I tell you, you won't get out of there until you have paid the very last cent."

Message for the Lord's Day

Rev. Deborah Coble

\*Response To The Word

Gloria Patri

Hymnal 70

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, Amen. Amen.

\*Hymn

I Need Thee Every Hour

**UMH 397** 

# **Prayers of the People**

Together, we pray

for the people of this congregation...

for those who suffer and those in trouble...

for the concerns of this local community...

for the world, its peoples, and its leaders...

for the earth you have given to our care...

for the Church universal; its leaders, its members, and its mission,

in communion with the saints...

# The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Mission And Ministry Moment** 

**Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings** 

# **Offertory**

\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies.

Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us.

Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to your service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

\* Hymn God of Grace and God of Glory UMH 577

#### \* Benediction

Life is short and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.

So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind, and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.