



September 10, 2023

15th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE

Boldface = All speak

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE....."Come, Christians Join to Sing" *Spanish Folk Tune, Arr. by Mark Hayes*
"Christians, We Have Met to Worship" *American Folk Tune, Arr. by Mark Hayes*

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"
(CCLI Song #2448277. Henry Purcell, John Mason Neale. Words & Music: Public Domain)

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

This day is God's gift to us.

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

God has graciously gathered us together in this place.

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

God is good and faithful. God is our worthy of our praise.

Come, let us worship God!

❖ **HYMN** "Here in This Place" **#401**
(Marty Haugen (1979) © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Marty Haugen.)

❖ **CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER**

Merciful God, in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. (a time for silent confession) Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace so that, day by day, we might move closer to the people you created us to be. Amen.

❖ **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

❖ **AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

DEDICATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEACHERS & STUDENTS

GLORIA PATRI..... Henry W. Greatorex (Public Domain) **#581**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mysterious God, we trust that you are at work among us, even when you are hidden from our sight. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes to see you, our ears to hear you, and our arms to embrace your truth, as it comes to us in your Word. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 119:33-40, pg. 879
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM..... "Wonderful Grace"
(Words and music by Cindy Ovokaitys; arranged by Charles McCartha)

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 18:15-20, pg. 1401
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

❖ **HYMN** "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" **#203**
(CCLI Song #7125029. Tom Colvin, Jane Marshall. Words: 1969 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1982 Hope Publishing Company)

❖ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the

waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*p. 35 in the hymnal*)

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY Genevan Psalter (Public Domain) **#606**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & SERVE

❖**HYMN** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" **#547**
*(Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda © 1983 Concordia Publishing House.
Music: Welsh melody, c. 1784 - Public Domain)*

❖**SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE..... "Praise Him! Praise Him!" *Chester G. Allen, Arr. by Mark Hayes*

ANNOUNCEMENT: Congregational Meeting: Sunday Sept. 24

Heritage Presbyterian Church will hold a brief congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, September 24 to elect new elders and deacons. The meeting will take place in-person and via Zoom (link to be included in the Monday email on September 18).

Pastor: The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

Lector: Karen Maurer

Greeter/Usher: Joan Knapp

Worship Pianist: Amy Dickman

Offering Counters: Duncan Cory & _____

In gratitude for John Wurster and the Presbyterian Outlook for inspiring portions of today's worship service.