SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY July 27, 2025 Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE Tommy Clay, Jr.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Rob Mattson

OPENING SENTENCES Steve Crowley

Jesus said, Ask, and it will be given to you. **For everyone who asks receives.**

GATHERING PRAYER

Eternal God, protector of those who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Hymn #275

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name,

from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.

His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.

One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.

The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.

The body they may kill;

God's truth abideth still.

His kingdom is forever.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives in a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit, in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be to the Father" Hymn #581

"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.

ANTHEM "Soon and Very Soon"

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

First Reading

Hosea 1:2-10 p.642, OT

Second Reading

Colossians 2:6-19 p.156, NT

Gospel Reading

Luke 11:1-13 p.55, NT

Hosea 1:2-10 p.642, OT

2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of prostitution and have children of prostitution, for the land commits great prostitution by forsaking the Lord." **3** So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

- **4** And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel, for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. **5** On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel."
- **6** She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. **7** But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen."
- **8** When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. **9** Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people, and I am not your God."
- **10** Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered, and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Colossians 2:6-15

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, **7** rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

8 Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. **9** For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. 11 In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; 12 when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, 14 erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Luke 11:1-13 p.55, NT

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." **2** So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

5 And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, **6** for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him. '**7** And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my

children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything. '8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9 "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. **11** Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? **12** Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? **13** If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**.

SERMON

"Prayer As Tools"

Jerie Lukefahr

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed) Hymnal p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (with the Lord's Prayer) Hymnal p.35

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into

temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING MUSIC

Tommy Clay, Jr.

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn #606

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

HYMN "Christ Is Alive" Hymn #246

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Because He Lives"

Because He lives I can face tomorrow

Because He lives all fear is gone Because I know He holds the future. And life is worth the living just because He lives

POSTLUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Details on our website, Facebook,

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Church Activities

Small Groups-Sunday 9:15 am; Tues. 4:00 pm; Wed. 5:00 pm.

Outreach Ministries

Church Life Group-movie night-Thursday's 5:30-7:00 pm in the Bartram Room.

Bread of Life- July needs are pop-top cans and canned fruit. **Social Connections**-Thurs.1pm in the Zoom Rm. Contact Shaaron Kohl 864-378-7032.

Quilting Group-Friday's at 10:00 in the Zoom Room, Welcoming new members.

Shower Ministry-Thurs. from 2-5pm

Meridian/Grace Market Place-Thurs. 2-4pm in the Bartram Rm a representative for assistance.

T.O.S.S-nightly shelter from 7pm-7am in Westminster Hall. *(monetary donations needed)*

PC3-Putnam County Caring Coalition-has begun their heat sheltering in the basement from 12-8pm.

RCMA-Workshops July, 29-31, from 8-4pm in Westminster Hall.

New Opportunities

Praise Worship Services-coming soon, contact Suzie for an audition.

ChEWY Activites-check the church calendar for more information or contact Sherry Tindall.

- Saturday, August 9th, Back-to-School Bash
- Saturday, August 16th, Jacksonville MOSH and Planetarium
- Saturday, September 20th, Alligator Farm



TEENS INCITING CHANGE
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- Host a series of drop-ins
- Host community talks
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More info or to apply: teensincitingchange.org

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