

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**August 31, 2025**  
**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**

**PRELUDE**

Tommy Clay, Jr.

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Karma Burl

Do good and share what you have.

**For such sacrifices are pleasing to God.** (Hebrews 13)

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name; increase in us true religion; nourish us in all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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**

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

Hymn #837

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Refrain:*

Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Refrain:*

Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;

leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Refrain:*  
Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

## **CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret; for the things we have failed to do that we regret; for all the times we have acted without love; for all the times we have reacted without thought; for all the times we haven't cared about someone who needed us; for all the times we have failed to forgive; for hurtful words said, and helpful words unsaid; for unfinished tasks, and unfulfilled hopes; God of all time, forgive us and help us to lay down our burden of regret.**

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**      Chancel Choir

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### ***First Reading***

Jeremiah 2:4-13

p.532, OT

#### ***Second Reading***

Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16

p.178, NT

#### ***Gospel Reading***

**Jeremiah 2:4-13**

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me  
that they went far from me  
and went after worthless things and became worthless  
themselves?

<sup>6</sup> They did not say, "Where is the Lord,  
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,  
who led us in the wilderness,  
in a land of deserts and pits,  
in a land of drought and deep darkness,  
in a land that no one passes through,  
where no one lives?"

<sup>7</sup> I brought you into a plentiful land  
to eat its fruits and its good things.  
But when you entered you defiled my land  
and made my heritage an abomination.

<sup>8</sup> The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"  
Those who handle the law did not know me;  
the rulers<sup>[a]</sup> transgressed against me;  
the prophets prophesied by Baal  
and went after things that do not profit.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore once more I accuse you,  
says the Lord,  
and I accuse your children's children.

<sup>10</sup> Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;  
send to Kedar and examine with care;  
see if there has ever been such a thing.

<sup>11</sup> Has a nation changed its gods,  
even though they are no gods?  
But my people have changed their glory  
for something that does not profit.

<sup>12</sup> Be appalled, O heavens, at this;  
be shocked; be utterly desolate,  
says the Lord,

<sup>13</sup> for my people have committed two evils:  
they have forsaken me,  
the fountain of living water,  
and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns  
that can hold no water.

### **Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

Let mutual affection continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup> Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup> So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.  
What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

<sup>15</sup> Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

### **Luke 14:1, 7-14**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when

you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

**SERMON**      "Let God Reward You"      Rev. Cliff Lyda

**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** “Go, My Children, With My Blessing” Hymn #547

Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing - You are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him,  
saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort  
stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.

## **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

## **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place”

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,

I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

## POSTLUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (Details on our website, Facebook,  
& Realm calendar.)

### **\*\*\*\*Called Congregational Meeting\*\*\*\***

**Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> immediately following  
the 10:30 worship service. Purpose: election of  
At-Large members to the Congregational  
Nominating Committee.**

### **Church Activities**

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

**Presbyterian Women**-Circles meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday,  
10:30am & 6:30pm in the Garden Room.

### **Outreach Ministries**

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

**Bread of Life**- August needs are Cream of Mushroom, Carrots,  
Bottled water, Gatorade or powder packets.

**Social Connections**-Thurs. 1pm in 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 the basement.  
(monetary donations needed)

### **New Opportunities**

**Praise Worship Services**-coming soon, contact Felecia  
Nelson for an interview/audition at [pinkorchidjfn@aol.com](mailto:pinkorchidjfn@aol.com).

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

- Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, Alligator Farm