

# **SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**



## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

**PRELUDE** 

### The Light of the World

By William J. Kirkpatrick Arranged by Jenifer Cook for clarinet and piano Sharon Pegram, Solo Clarinet

## THE GATHERING

WELCOME

**OPENING SONG** 

House Of The Lord

Jonathan Smith | Phil Wickham

#### Verse 1

We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be
He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God He holds the victory yeah

#### Chorus

#### Interlude 1

Oh oh oh

We shout out Your praise

#### Verse 2

We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones away

Chorus / Bridge (2x) / Chorus (2x)

#### Chorus

There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise

### Bridge

('Cause) We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

### ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
- C: Amen.
- A: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

#### Silence For Reflection

- A: Merciful and loving God,
- C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.
- A: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ‡ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
- C: Amen.

#### GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray together,
- C: God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.



## **THE WORD**

## This Little Light of Mine

Verse 1 Verse 2

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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### CHILDREN'S SERMON

### A READING FROM Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

### A READING FROM 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(W&P 144—Refrain only)



THE GOSPEL READING

LUKE 16:1-13

(Congregation standing)

L: The Holy Gospel of St. Luke, beginning in the sixteenth chapter.

### C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION ON THE GOOD NEWS



### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. *Each petition shall conclude with:* 

A: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude:

A: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

## THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

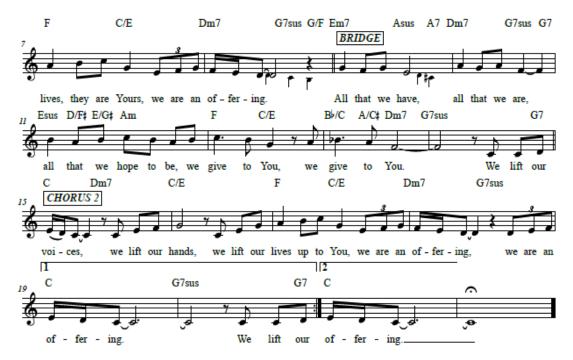
## Sonata No. 8 in c minor op. 13

Sonata Pathétique II movement Adagio Cantabile by Ludwig van Beethoven Anna Keiserman, Ph. D., Solo Piano

### THE OFFERTORY

### We Are An Offering





#### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

C: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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 and ever. Amen.

#### HOLY COMMUNION

We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles. Communion is by intinction. We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

#### COMMUNION MUSIC

### Around You, O Lord Jesus (ELW 468)



- 1 A round you, O Lord Je sus, your own you gath er still
- 2 We hear your in vi ta tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
- 3 We are your own for ev er; un til our fi nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill. your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all. we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—



You say ing - ly, "Take, to us SO lov eat! is my draws ing heart; brings us to your lov it to us your de - part from you, are still a - mong your peo for you ple



#### COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: Amen.



## THE SENDING

### THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son  $\pm$ , and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

**Give Us Your Heart** 

Jake Richards | Jordan Merritt | Melanie Tierce | The Emerging Sound

#### Verse 1

Your eyes are on the lowly Though others look away Your feet run to the broken Your hands are quick to save Make us like You Lord

#### Verse 2

You walk with the forgotten And offer them a home Adopting the unwanted And calling them Your own Make us like You Lord

#### Chorus

Song Continues on next page

#### Chorus

O give us Your heart

O give us Your heart

Let the light of heaven shine

As we step into the dark

O give us Your heart

O give us Your heart

All to see Your kingdom come and death depart

O give us Your heart

O give us Your heart

#### Verse 2

You walk with the forgotten And offer them a home Adopting the unwanted And calling them Your own Make us like You Lord (Make us like You Lord)

#### Chorus

Bridge (2x)

Chorus

#### Chorus

O give us Your heart O give us Your heart

Let the light of heaven shine As we step into the dark O give us Your heart O give us Your heart

All to see Your kingdom come and death depart

O give us Your heart O give us Your heart

### **Bridge**

Let justice flow like a river in the desert Let the nations know that You will reign forever As the earth beholds the glory of the Savior Let justice flow

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSED AND SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

### C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: Jesus calls us to be good stewards of all that God has given us. And God has given us so much! Everything we love in our lives is a gift from God. We are called to good stewardship of our planet, our resources, and even our relationships. Nurturing relationships near and far is all part of being a follower of Jesus, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ so that, ...

## C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

### DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### **POSTLUDE**

If you are worshipping with us at 9:00 am we kindly ask that you leave your bulletin on the back table on your way out for those that are worshipping at 11:00 am if you did not make notes. We wish to be good stewards of our environment and resources.

\*\* Our services are live-streamed and recorded for later viewing. We also utilize images from our services and activities on our website. If you do not want images of you or your family on our website, please inform us via an email to communications@epiphanysuwanee.org.



## **Sunday Worship Services**

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

**Ministers:** The People of God

**Pastor:** Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music:

Worship Production: Steve Belfield Worship Accompanist: Anna Keiserman, Ph. D.

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The Light of the World

By William J. Kirkpatrick Arranged by Jenifer Cook for clarinet and piano © 2009 by Jenifer Cook

House of the Lord

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Thy Word Is A Lamp © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Co./ Bug and Bear Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

Text: Amy Grant, b. 1960 Music: Michael W. Smith, b. 1957; arr. Keith Phillips

Let Streams of Living Justice (ELW 710) Text: William Whitla, b. 1934 (Text © 1989 William Whitla)

Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934 (Public Domain)

Sonata No. 8 in c minor op. 13

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We Are An Offering

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Give Us Your Heart

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- Text EPIPHANYGA to 73256
- Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up recurring giving
- Mail a check to Epiphany
- Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday

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