

Welcome to the

Setauket Presbyterian Church

of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

August 31, 2025

❖ *please rise in body or in spirit*; **unison prayers are in bold.**

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Canon* Cesar Franck

CALL TO WORSHIP

This morning the Lord will appear to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre,
and Abraham will welcome God with open arms.

This morning the Lord will appear to us in this place;
let us also welcome God with open arms.

For we do not know what good news we may hear;
we do not know what new life might become ours.
Indeed, let us worship the Lord in this place!

OPENING PRAYER

❖HYMN no. 409 *God Is Here*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of hospitality and hope, we confess that we at times fail to welcome others as you welcome us. We look away from those who are different. We keep our circles of friends tightly closed. We turn away from the unknown and the ones we dub “foreign.” We have forgotten that we may actually meet you in the face of the stranger! Forgive us, O Lord. Open our lives to your surprising presence, and let your promise of new life be born in us again. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

SUNG RESPONSE no. 694 *Great God of Every Blessing*

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** Please share a sign of Christ’s peace with one another.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, send your Spirit among us as we hear your Word. Make us attentive to the strangers in Scripture and strangeness of scripture. Lord, we want to catch a glimpse of your promises this morning! Grant that we receive this gift of insight and illumination and are thereby empowered to grow in faith, hope, and love. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on —since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?” The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 13:2

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Johanna McCune Wagner

❖**HYMN no. 754** *Help Us Accept Each Other*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Lord of All Hopefullness, Lord of All Joy* Ronald Arnatt

❖ **DOXOLOGY no. 609**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God,
all creatures high and low: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

❖ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE**

Generous God, we give you thanks for all that you provide: bread from the earth, water from the well, and the gift of new life through Christ. Bless these offerings, that they may become hospitality for the hungry, welcome for the stranger, and hope for the weary. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

❖**HYMN no. 767** *Together We Serve*

❖ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Magnificat* Jean Francois D’Andrieu
