Welcome to Worship! | August 24, 2025 | 11th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Prelude Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Paul Manz

Welcome

Impact Story Ryan and Megan Johnson

*Call to Worship[†] Jane Smith

Rejoice in the Lord always.

Joyfully we gather in this place, for God is generous and we are grateful.

Again: Rejoice! The Lord is near.

Prayerfully we gather in this place, with open hearts to discern God's plan.

Joyfully present, prayerfully connected, let us rejoice in God with song!

*Hymn 401 Here in This Place (Gather Us In)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession[‡]

Remembering your generosity prompts us to be generous like you and to practice generosity with you for the sake of the world. Remembering your generosity is vital in this covenant relationship. When we forget, we become distant, less likely to spend time with you; less likely to see the goodness in the day and be grateful for it; less likely to trust your generosity; and less likely to show kindness to your people and your creation. Trusting in your mercy, together we silently confess. (Silent confession)

Holy God, forgive us. Help us remember to rejoice always, pray continually, and remain gratefully alert to your divine presence in our lives, in the church, and in the world; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Sung Response (Sung to the tune "Hymn to Joy")

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.

WORD

Back to School Blessing

Lynn Warner

Prayer for Illumination First Lesson Philippians 4:4-9 Second Lesson Psalm 100 Sermon Joyful Noises

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

^{*}Hymn 697 Take My Life

*Litany of Commitment

Gracious God, creator of the world, giver of all that is good,

Bless the commitments to the capital campaign we bring to you today.

These commitments represent our work, our hopes, and our dreams for our church,

and we offer them in thanksgiving for all we have received.

May we see these commitments as a sacred offering,

And not a gift of obligation or exchange.

May we use them to strengthen our physical space,

And remain joyfully present and prayerfully connected within our community for God.

May they move us to be more faithful disciples,

And energize us for lives of generosity.

In gratitude for the grace of God,

In the warmth of God's hospitality,

And in the spirit of generosity embodied by Christ,

We dedicate these commitments to the work of God.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Randy Warner

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Offertory Be Thou My Vision

arr. Sorenson

*Doxology 606

*Prayer of Dedication+

Generous God, over and over and over again, you bestow your gifts upon us. You drop them into our lives, then our hearts overflow in gladness, and—like ripples in a tidal pool—we respond by spreading our time, our talent, and our treasures outward. Through our offering, may we, like you, be the pebble that begins the ripple; through our prayers, may we, with you, be the water that carries it onward; and through our actions, may we, for you, be the vessel that spreads your love, now and forever more. Amen.

SENDING

*Dismissal We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that

God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life goes with us.

Postlude Psalm 19 Benedetto Marcello

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington Associate Pastor, Rev. Parker Lucas Liturgist, Randy Warner Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger Choir Director, Angela Burns Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant Adult Choir Children's Director, Lynn Warner Production, Paul Barrett Lay Reader, Carol Query

[†]Liturgy written by Randy Warner ‡Adapted from the writing of Karl B. Travis in *God's Gift of Generosity: Gratitude Beyond Stewardship* ‡Prayer of Dedication written by the Capital Campaign Prayer Team

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.

^{*}Hymn 385 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

^{*}Charge and Benediction