

## August 15, 2021 ~ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM:

Michelle Davis Sinclair, 16th

Judy LePera, 20th

GATHERING SONG: No. 288 – “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Listen! The Lord calls out to us, offering life!

**Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God.**

Walk in the paths of God’s commandments with delight.

**Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God.**

**With our whole heart,**

**we will turn to you and live!**

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE: No. 174 - “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,  
she who danced when earth was new.

Follow closely what she teaches,  
for her words are right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice,  
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,  
crying in the marketplace.

Hear the Word made flesh among us,  
full of glory, truth, and grace.

When the word takes root and ripens,  
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;  
nurture all who seek rebirth.  
Spirit-guide and close companion,  
bring to light our sacred worth.  
Free us to become your people,  
holy friends of God and earth.

## ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON):

**Have mercy on us, Lord!  
We are haunted by the past,  
plagued by the present,  
and fearful of the future.  
We shrink away from your gaze  
as strangers outside your circle of blessing.  
Yet the faith you have planted in us  
reaches out for your favor,  
returns to your presence,  
and hungers for your mercy,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*  
**Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 469 – “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 25:1-5 and Matthew 15: 21-28

SERMON: “Risky Learning”

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 307 - "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the gift of thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostles' Creed*

**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 on 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.**

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

\*DOXOLOGY: No. 701 – “Lord, Prepare Me”

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Gracious Lord, you have given us more mercy  
than we could imagine  
and more blessings than we deserve.  
Receive now these gifts as tokens of our gratitude to you,  
that your mercy may be multiplied  
and your blessings abound  
to embrace all those in need. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*FINAL HYMN: No. 656 - “We've Come This Far by Faith”

We've come this far by faith,  
leaning on the Lord,  
trusting in the holy Word;  
God's never failed us yet.  
O, can't turn around,  
we've come this far by faith.  
We've come this far by faith.

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: No. 539 – “We Will Go Out With Joy”

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.  
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.  
Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.  
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.

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**August 15, 2021**

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*#288 - Spirit of the Living God*

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*#727 – Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (The Servant Song)*

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