



**“WHO  
DO YOU SAY  
I AM?”**

**MARK 8:29, NIV**

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19, 2021

## GATHERING

**PRAYER FOR MEDITATION:** *God of love, you teach us a life journey that calls us to deny what is unhealthy and unloving. Lead us in that pathway. Awaken us to the ever-new abundance that is ours through your Word, in the name of the one who died and rose, Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.*

## RINGING OF THE CHIMES

## WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Hymn Tune Prelude on ST DENIO*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Langston

### INTROIT

*Guide My Feet*

SPIRITUAL

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: We follow Christ,  
**Many:** *Who says take up your cross.*  
One: We follow Christ,  
**Many:** *Who bids us come and offer our lives.*  
One: We follow Christ  
**Many:** *Who summons us to new life.*  
One: Come, let us worship our Creator.  
**Many:** *Come, let us worship God.*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE: 36 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*Rev. John White*

*God delivers us from paths of death and keeps our feet from stumbling. Let us confess all that keeps us from walking in the way of the Lord.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Rev. John White*

*Holy God, we humble ourselves now in confession: We want to be followers of Jesus, but we do not always want to follow Jesus. We don't even want to listen when the conversation turns toward darkness and death. We prefer to indulge ourselves. We are eager to put down our crosses. We cling tightly to our lives. We grasp at worldly rewards. We fail to recognize you.*

*Merciful and loving God, forgive all of our thoughts and actions that would keep us from the path of Christ. Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives and turn us back to you. For it is in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.*

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Rev. John White*

One: God, who is gracious and merciful, knows the human desire to save our lives by avoiding Jesus' call to carry the cross. God, who is full of compassion, also knows that those who repent have set their minds and hearts on what endures for all time. In Jesus Christ, our sins have been forgiven.

*ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.*

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(Hymn #581)*

GLORIA PATRI

*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, amen.*

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*ACT OF PRAISE

*Antiphonal Hosanna*  
Chancel Choir Interns

Smith

## THE WORD

### TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Libby Smith*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Rev. John White*

### MINUTE FOR MISSION: STEWARDSHIP, A WAY OF LIFE

*Elder Russell Jones*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Rev. John White*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Psalms 145: 1-8*  
*(Page 581)*

*Rev. John White*

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Mark 8:27-38*  
*(Page 43-44)*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

### SERMON

*"But Who Do YOU Say that I Am?"*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*



## RESPONSE

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *The Confession of 1967*)

Rev. John White

***In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.***

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

**OFFERING  
OFFERTORY**

*Jesus Loves Me*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Rev. John White  
arr. by Held

\*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

***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.***

\*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. John White

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: 697** *Take My Life*

HENDON

## SENDING

**\*CHARGE**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**SENDING FORTH**

*The Lord Be with You*

Sleeth

**POSTLUDE**

*Gigue Toccata*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Penfield