

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

*(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**

*Rev. Courtney Bowen
Thiman*

Con moto
Dr. Terry McRoberts

*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. Courtney Bowen

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: 365** *God Reigns! Let the Earth Rejoice*

MARION

SENDING

***CHARGE**

Rev. John White

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

SENDING FORTH

The Lord Be with You

Sleeth

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT LASST WALTEN

Bach

Dr. Terry McRoberts

**Congregation standing, if able*

Whoever gives you
A CUP OF WATER
to drink because you bear the
NAME OF CHRIST
will by no means lose the
REWARD. **Mark 9:41**



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Chorale Prelude on EIN FESTE BURG* Walther
Dr. Terry McRoberts

INTROIT *Guide My Feet* SPIRITUAL

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *Rev. John White*

One: Are any among you suffering?

Many: *Then let us pray.*

One: Are any cheerful?

Many: *Then let us sing songs of praise.*

One: Are any among you sick?

Many: *Then let us turn to each other for God's healing touch.*

One: The prayer of faith will save us

Many: *And God will lift us up. Let us worship God together.*

***HYMN OF PRAISE: 702** *Christ Be Beside Me* BUNESSAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Rev. Courtney Bowen*

God, your grace reaches out to all of us.

And yet, we have a difficult time extending grace to others

You call us to live as citizens of heaven,

But our preoccupation is with the things of this world.

Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy

of the Good News, offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,

where the last are first, and the first are last,

and there is grace enough for all.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Strengthen us all to witness to our faith

with a freshness that attracts;

a sincerity that convinces,

and an integrity which confirms our allegiance to Christ,

in whose name we pray. Amen

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

**Congregation standing, if able*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: James entreats us to *“confess our sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that we may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”* (James 5:16)
We have confessed our sins against one another, and against God,
and we believe that prayer is powerful and effective.
In that belief, I declare to you,
in Jesus Christ we are healed and 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**

Though I May Speak (The Gift of Love)
Jeff Chambers

arr. by Hal Hopson

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

***HYMN OF PRAISE: 462** *I Love to Tell the Story*

HANKEY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 11:4-6; 10-16; 24-29*
(Page 129-130)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Mark 9:38-41*
(Page 45)

Rev. John White

SERMON

Differences and Priorities

Rev. John White

