



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 2, 2023

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Holy God, we are gathered to meet with you this morning. Open our hearts to the many ways you will speak to us. As you did with the prophets, you call us out of our everyday lives to share your message of love and grace. Challenge us today to look within ourselves so that we may be your disciples. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

James Christoferson

PRELUDE

The Lord's Prayer
Justin Little

Malotte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Carrie Jones

One: God calls us to worship today.

ALL: *We are here!*

One: All are invited - the sick, the well, the believer, and the doubter.

ALL: *We are here!*

One: Wash us, O God! May we be cleansed by your holy love.

ALL: *We are here! Let us worship God!*

*HYMN: 337 *My Country Tis of Thee*

AMERICA

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

James Christoferson

One: When we walk from darkness into the light we can see ourselves as we really are. We see the spots of sin more clearly, and we realize that we need God's healing and redemption. Come and confess your sins to God and wade into the river of the Healer's mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

James Christoferson

One: God of Grace and God of Glory, we confess that we lose sight of our identities, finding our worth in our status, our demographic, or even our location.

ALL: *Forgive us of our idolatry.*

One: Forgive us for placing our worldly identities above your love for us.

ALL: *Forgive us for when we get distracted by elaborate rituals, holding ourselves superior, simply due to our place of birth.*

(continued)

One: You, O God, are the source of our identity.
ALL: *You, O God, call us to love our neighbor.*
One: You, O God, call us to be different!
ALL: *May we swim in your healing waters, resting in the fullness of being children of God. Amen.*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

James Christoferson

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

ALL: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.*

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 447 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

James Christoferson

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: *And, also, with you.*

THE WORD

ACT OF PRAISE

Come Thou Fount

Payne

Justin Little

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

James Christoferson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

James Christoferson

*HYMN: 415 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carrie Jones

FIRST READING *Psalms 13 (page 494-495)*

Carrie Jones

One: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND READING *Matthew 10:40-42 (page 11)*

James Christoferson

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

The 3 Gardens

James Christoferson

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (From *The Confession of 1967*)

Carrie Jones

God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

God has created human beings for a personal relation with himself that they may respond to the love of the Creator. God has created male and female and given them a life which proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations. God has endowed humans with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

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

OFFERING

Carrie Jones

OFFERTORY

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

Bish

Justin Little

*Doxology (Tune: 606)

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

Carrie Jones

SENDING

***HYMN: 340** *This is My Song*

FINLANDIA

***CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

James Christoferson

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Wood

Justin Little