NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 10, 2025
11:00 AM



As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Rev. Dr. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE *St. Anthony's Chorale* Franz Josef Haydn

from Psalm 18

CALL TO WORSHIP Dick Clapp

Who is God except the LORD?
And who is a rock besides our God?
God girds us with strength
and makes our way safe.
It is God who lights our lamps;
the Lord, our God, lights up our darkness.
God makes our feet like the feet of a deer
and sets us secure on higher ground.

***HYMN 49** *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

The God of Abraham praise,
who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days,
the God of love!
The Lord, the great I am,
by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name,
forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free,
high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old
and you speak still.
Established is your law,
and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart
by your strong hand.

Your goodly land we seek,
with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty
and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow,
and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow
with mercy crowned. *(continued next page)*

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

You have eternal life
implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay,
while ages roll.
We praise you, living God!
We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought,
and still the same!

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
We come before you humbled.
Like Samson, we have misused the gifts you have given us.
We confess that we have let our hearts be led astray,
placing trust in what is fleeting rather than in you.
O Lord, in our blindness, help us see again.
In our weakness, remind us that our strength is in you alone.
Restore us, God of mercy.
Use even our failures to reveal your glory
and shape us into people who live not for themselves,
but for you and your kingdom.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 582** (v. 1) *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

BACKPACK BLESSING Eric Robinson

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *The Storm is Passing Over* Tindley/arr. Baker
(The Chancel Choir)

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on.
Though the night is dark and I am far from home.
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears.

The storm is passing over,
The storm is passing over,
The storm is passing over, hallelu!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Judges 16:15-31

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *From Hair to Eternity* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors:
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* arr. S. Phillips
(Isaac Mingus, Mark DeRose, Steven Phillips)

***DOXOLOGY 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from *The Theological Declaration of Barmen* (1934)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Dick Clapp

The church's commission,
upon which its freedom is founded,
consists in delivering the message
of the free grace of God
to all people in Christ's stead,
and therefore in the ministry of his own Word and work
through sermon and Sacrament.

We reject the false doctrine,
as though the church in human arrogance
could place the Word and work of the Lord
in the service of any arbitrarily chosen
desires, purposes, and plans.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory* CMW RHONDDA

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.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE *How Firm a Foundation* arr. Eugene Russell

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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