# THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
## AFTER PENTECOST
## AUGUST 27, 2023
## 11:00 AM

**WELCOME AND INVITATION** Tim Boggess

**PRELUDE** *Praying* Mary Oliver

(Read by Carrie Mills; musical background by Steven Phillips)

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just pay attention, then patch

a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway

into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 84)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
**Happy are those who live in your house ever singing your praise.**
For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
**O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 620** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* LAUDA ANIMA

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the Maker all your days!

Praise God for the grace and favor
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame,
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All within me, praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration;
you behold God face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

* *Those who are able are invited to stand.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Mary Willis

**Loving God, we confess that we struggle to bear the fruit of your Spirit.**
**We long to be more loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, gentle and faithful.**
**We long to have more self-control. And yet, we don't know where to start.**
**Which is, perhaps, the very place to start.**
**God, give us opportunities every day to grow in faithfulness and fruitfulness.**
**Give us opportunities to taste and see that you are good**
**and we are gifted with your abundant grace. Amen.**

*(a moment for silent reflection)*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*** SONG OF JOY 647** *Give Thanks* GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (repeat)

And now let the weak say,
"We are strong";
let the poor say,
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" (repeat)

Give thanks.
Give thanks.

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

**ANTHEM OF PREPARATION** *Deep River* Traditional Spiritual/
(The Chancel Choir) arr. Mark Hayes

**Refrain**
Deep river – my home is over Jordan,
Deep river, Lord – I want to cross over into campground.

Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast,
That promised land where all is peace? (Refrain)

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Acts 9:1-22 Page 1000

The Word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Lost in My Own Backyard* Tim Boggess
(Road Trips: Stories of Faith on the Move)

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Steven Phillips

* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF SERVICE 450** *Be Thou My Vision* SLANE

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Tim Boggess

**POSTLUDE** *Grace and Peace at Parting* Eugene Russell

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