THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 29, 2025
10:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Steven Phillips

PRELUDE *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Spiritual/arr. Phillips
(Isaac Mingus, cello)

CALL TO WORSHIP Pat Higgins

Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."
Lord, help us follow where you lead.
Jesus said, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."
Lord, help us put you first and follow you.
Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also."
Lord, help us follow you, that we may serve you.
The peace of Christ be with all of you.
And also with you. Let us worship God.

***HYMN 401** (vv. 1, 2 & 4) *Here in This Place* GATHER US IN

Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Rev. Miguel Estrada

Eternal God,
you claimed us as your own in our baptisms
and called us to be your covenant people.
We confess we do not live as people created in your image,
nor do we lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called.
Jesus still calls, "Follow me" and we offer excuses
because we can't do that.
Jesus calls us to new life in the Spirit,
and we cling to our old habits and tired traditions.
Gracious God, forgive our sins.
Open our ears and hearts to hear Jesus's call
and give us grace and strength to respond in faith and love.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

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

***SONG OF JOY 805** (vv. 1 & 4) *Come Sing to God* ELLACOMBE

1 Come sing to God, O living saints;
sing praises to God's name.
God's anger is not permanent;
God's love will never wane.
Though tears may tarry for the night
with sighs of deepest pain,
yet joy comes with the morning sun,
a peace that is not vain.

4 You change my grief to joy-filled dance;
my sorrows you destroy.
In faithfulness you hear my cry
and fill my life with joy.
And so to you my heart shall sing;
my voice your goodness raise.
You are my God, forevermore.
My life shall sing your praise.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Eric Robinson

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Down to the River to Pray* American Folk Hymn
(The Chancel Choir)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Luke 9:51-62

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Volunteers or Disciples, What Are We?* Rev. Miguel Estrada

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Pat Higgins

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 *By Our Love* Christy Nockels

Verse 1
Brothers, let us come together,
Walking in the Spirit, there's much to be done.
We will come reaching out from our comforts,
And they will know us by our love.

Verse 2
Sisters, we were made for kindness,
We can pierce the darkness as God shines through us.
We will come reaching with a song of healing,
And they will know us by our love.

Chorus
The time is now, come church arise!
Love with Christ's hands, see with His eyes.
Bind it around you, let it never leave you,
And they will know us by our love.

Verse 3
Children, you are hope for justice;
Stand firm in the truth now, set your hearts above.
You will be reaching long after we're gone,
And they will know you by your love.

(Chorus – 2 times)

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from *A Declaration of Faith*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Pat Higgins

We are certain that Jesus lives.
He lives as God with us,
touching all of human life with the presence of God.
He lives as one of us with God.
Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love,
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.
We declare that Jesus is Lord.
His resurrection is a decisive victory
over the powers that deform and destroy human life.
His lordship is hidden.
The world appears to be dominated by people and systems
that do not acknowledge his rule.
But his lordship is real.
It demands our loyalty and sets us free
from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.
We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ
in every sphere of life, Jesus is Lord.
He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now he is Lord.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 757** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* KINGSFOLD

1 Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.

2 God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud;
we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.

3 Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.

4 May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Miguel Estrada

POSTLUDE *Lead on, O King Eternal* Purcell/Manz

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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