TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 31, 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 *I've Got Peace Like a River* arr. Eugene Russell

from Psalm 112

CALL TO WORSHIP Ron Miller

Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who delight in God's commandments.
They are generous, sharing freely what they have received.
Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid.
Let us praise the Lord!

***HYMN 396** *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* HOLY MANNA

Brethren, we have met to worship
and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power
while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit
of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you come and help us?
Moses' sister aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners
who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior.
Tell them that he will be found.
Sisters, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Is there here a trembling jailer,
seeking grace and filled with fears?
Is there here a weeping Mary
pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them;
sisters, let your prayers abound!
Pray, O pray, that holy manna
will be scattered all around. *(continued next page)*

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Let us love our God supremely;
let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners
till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven;
at his table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us
with sweet manna all around.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of grace,
we confess that we seek places of honor,
craving recognition and reward.
We turn away from the poor and the forgotten,
forgetting that your table is open to all.
Forgive our pride and self-interest.
Teach us to take the lower place,
to welcome the stranger,
and to serve without expecting anything in return.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

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

***SONG OF JOY 538** (v. 2) *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA

Refrain:
Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.
Tell to all the joyful gospel. (Refrain)

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

page 951 **SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Downward Mobility* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Ron Miller

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 *Jubilate Deo* Dennis and Nan Allen
(The Chancel Choir)

Jubilate Deo! Lift your voice in joyful song.
Jubilate Deo! Sing to God who reigns above.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Glory to God on high.
And on earth peace. Alleluia!

***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 *A Declaration of Faith* (1977)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Ron Miller

Jesus was what we should be.
He served his Father with complete trust
and unwavering obedience.
He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love.
In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,
Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him
from loving God with his whole being
and his neighbor as himself.

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be.
He exposes our failure to live as he lived.
He demonstrates the new humanity
God promises to give us through him.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

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

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.

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.

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.

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. Boggess

POSTLUDE *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* arr. Steven Phillips

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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