EIGHTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 23, 2023
11:00 AM

WELCOME — Tim Boggess

PRELUDE — *Meditation Piece* (Greg Stead, oboe) — Gabriel Fauré

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** — (from Psalm 46) Michael Fingerle

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 269** — *Lead On, O King Eternal* — LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal!
The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords' loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal:
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears;
your cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light.
The crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Abiding God, we confess that we often choose to go our own way instead of following your way. We only ask for your direction when we are lost or have reached a dead end. Well, we are lost. Dead ends are all around us and within us. Show us again your path which leads to life. Remove any obstacles that are in the way of following you today, and everyday.

(a moment for silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* **SONG OF JOY 804** (v. 1) *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

* **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung by guest soloist, Kristin Lewter)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 16:1-5, 11-15 Page 62

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Innocents Abroad* Tim Boggess
(Road Trips: Stories of Faith on the Move)

SONG OF RESPONSE *Cry No More* text by Johanna Anderson
(Kristen Lewter, soloist) music by Dan Forrest

In the shadow where we linger,
in this darkness we call home,
where the sighs are deep and doubtful
and our aspirations groan,
all is not in vain, beloved,
our travail is not unknown.

Refrain:
Christ within us, Christ among us,
Christ the first and Christ the last;
love incarnate, hold your children
till the storm of life is past.

Though we have not faith to seek him,
Christ himself will draw us near,
deep abiding rays of mercy
canst the light on lonely fear.
Cry no more, ye poor and needy,
our redeeming Lord is here. **(Refrain)**

Sure defender, never failing,
radiant savior, holy friend,
gift of glory, hope of heaven,
call us now to faith again.
Alleluia! Blest compassion,
grace is shining without end. **(Refrain)**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* arr. 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**

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Declaration of Faith* (1977)
Michael Fingerle

God created human beings with a need for community
and with freedom to enter into it by responding
to their Maker with grateful obedience
and to one another with love and helpfulness.
We believe that we have been created to relate
to God and each other in freedom and responsibility.

We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility
by trying to live without God and other people
or against God and other people.
Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being,
and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.

Since every human being is made for communion with God and others,
we must treat no one with contempt.
We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.

*** HYMN OF SERVICE 546** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* SICILIAN MARINERS

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.

Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Tim Boggess

POSTLUDE *Allegro from Concerto for Oboe* Domenico Cimarosa
(Greg Stead, oboe and Steven Phillips, piano)