

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
September 2, 2018  
11:00 A.M.  
*Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.*

**GATHERING TO PRAISE**

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

*Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.*

\*PASSING THE PEACE TO THOSE AROUND US

*This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God said, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

**People: But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord."**

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

**People: And I will give you rest."**

Leader: We come at the invitation of God – Creator, Christ and Spirit, resting from our labors on this Labor Day weekend,

**People: So let us worship God this day, the One who redeems and renews our strength!**

\*HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" No. 139 (vs. 1, 3 & 5)

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" (sung processional)

***Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all, Healing pain and sickness, blessing***

***children small, Washing tired feet, and saving those who fall; Jesus' hands***

***were kind hands, doing good to all.***

(sung recessional)

***Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you; Make them strong and gentle,***

*kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too, Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.*

**CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER**

UNISON PRAYER FOR OPENING TO GOD

**O Renewing Creator God, who labors to love all that is,  
May our eyes be opened to see your presence,  
Our souls opened to sense your presence,  
And our hearts opened to love You by loving others.  
Here on your earthly stage,**

**And in all that follows.**

**We open to You now in prayer ...**

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Pie Jesu"

Claire Olinik, vocalist

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 12: 1-8

(NT p. 12)

*Key Verse: "If you had known what this means, I want mercy and not sacrifice (ie. a flexible heart over an inflexible ritual),*

*you wouldn't have condemned the innocent. The Human One is Lord of the Sabbath."*

Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"You Are So Much More than Your Work"

THE GREAT FEAST OF GOD'S GRACE

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread and which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you. **During this time you are invited to***

**bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel.** Our Stephen Ministers are positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.

*Come with your hands open, a sign that the gift of God's Grace is free to all seeking it. Take time to reflect on the gift of meaningful work in your life (whether you're paid for it or not). Find a way to show your gratitude this coming week.*

One: Jesus worked hard to show us God's saving Grace.

**ALL: In the same way God walked through the desert with the Israelite people, and how a widow offered her last bit of food to a stranger, and how Jesus offered a hard-working woman living water at the well ...**

One: Jesus as a traveling carpenter-preacher showed us how God works.

**ALL: Healing the sick, assisting the needy,**

**Overturning the status quo, offering life everlasting.**

One: Jesus is still reminding us of God's work yet to be done.

**ALL: In the healing, challenging, guiding, forming movement of the Holy Spirit.**

Prayer over the Bread and Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

\*Doxology

No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

\*HYMNS OF COMMITMENT "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

No. 664

\*BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.*

*(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

\*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.