



“LORD, TO WHOM
SHALL WE GO?

*You have
the words*

OF ETERNAL LIFE.”

JOHN 6:68, NIV



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

O Lamb Of God, Pure And Spotless

J S Bach

Call to Worship

Kim Whitman

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: In the name of Christ, we come to worship God.

Leader: Sisters and brothers: We were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from our ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

People: Through Christ we have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that now our faith and hope are set on God.

All: In the presence of the risen Lord, our Savior, we come to worship anew! Amen!

† **Hymn of Praise**

#515 (1,2,3,4)

I Come with Joy

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.

The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are
friends, and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,
alive among us here.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

God of wilderness people, whose children often traveled confused and fearful, we confess our own wanderings in sorrow, sadness and doubt. We know how it feels to be lost, hurting and troubled. It seems often that we are wandering scared from all that threatens us. Desperate for survival, we settle for only half-hearted attempts at life. Forgive our lack of confidence in the face of death. Give us a large measure of Your spiritual nourishment so that even in the great difficulties, we may flourish in Your grace. In Your precious name. Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#439 (2,3)

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

God forgives all your transgressions, all diseases gently heals;
God redeems you from destruction, and with you so kindly deals.

Far as east from west is distant, God has put away our sin;
like the pity of a father has the Lord's compassion been.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Lisa Stevens

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Laudamus Te

Natalie Sleeth

Laudamus te. We praise Thee, Lord, this joyful day.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we magnify Thy name.

Laudamus, Thy majesty proclaim.

Unto Thee all glory be, now and for eternity.

Heaven and earth are full of Thee, holy, holy, one in three.

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 8:1–3 (NRSV)

“The entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. ³ He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God**Psalm 81** (tune: Ellacombe)

#56

Sing Out with Joy to God Our Strength

Sing out with joy to God our strength.

The God of Jacob praise, who brought us forth from Egypt’s grip:
from slavery we were saved.

God promised to provide for us, to nurture and to feed,
to fill our mouths with all good things, to give us all we need.

But we, Your people, would not hear, nor listen to Your voice.
Our selfish wills would not submit, nor make Your way our choice.

You gave us to our stubborn hearts, their counsel to obey.
We turned from all Your promises, to walk in our own way.

You plead for us to hear Your voice, to hearken and obey.
You promise to subdue our foes and sweep them all away.
You pledge to give us all we need, with finest wheat supply,
And give us honey from the rock, rich food to satisfy.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

John 6:56–69 (NRSV)

⁵⁶“Those who eat My flesh and drink My blood abide in Me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats Me will live because of Me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while He was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰When many of His disciples heard it,

they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that His disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you?" ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted by the Father."
⁶⁶Because of this many of His disciples turned back and no longer went about with Him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that You are the Holy One of God."

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Pollack

Remember

✠ **We Respond to God's Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.

Such great kindness! Such great mercy!

Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love You!

Jesus Christ, You save from sin!

How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.

I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:

Jesus Christ, how much I love You!

Jesus Christ, You save from sin!

How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Offering Acknowledgement *Special Offering: Backpack Ministry*

† **Doxology**

#606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† **Prayer of Dedication**

Hymn of Communion (Tune: "Dix")

#496

Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed

Bread of heaven, on Thee we feed, for Thou art our food indeed.
Ever may our souls be fed with this true and living Bread,
day by day with strength supplied through the life
of Christ who died.

Vine of heaven, Thy love supplies this blest cup of sacrifice.
'Tis Thy wounds our healing give; to Thy cross we look and live.
Thou, our life! O let us be rooted, grafted, built on Thee.

✠ The Lord's Supper ✠

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right . . . Hear us, gracious God, as we join creation's song
and sing Your eternal praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

. . . With thanksgiving, we celebrate the good news bringing great
joy in celebration of an empty tomb as we proclaim the mystery
of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. (2x)

Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit . . . Through Christ, all
glory and honor are Yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit
in the holy church, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

The 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 sins, as we
forgive those who sin 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

(We will distribute the bread and cup to you in the pew. You may eat of the bread individually as your act of repentance to God. Please hold on to the cup so that we might receive this together.)

Prayer After Communion

In Unison

God of all creation, not only have You given us life and everything we need, You have also claimed and redeemed us. Renewed by this holy meal, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, let us go out into the world boldly proclaiming the good news of the gospel. May our minds be set on Your ways and our souls strengthened to truly give up our lives for You as a living witness to Your glory. We pray in Jesus' name, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠

† Hymn of Sending

#515 (1,5)

I Come with Joy

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

Postlude

Max Jackson

With All My Heart I Give Thee Praise

Johann G Walther

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are presented by
Nancy Payne
in Memory of Loved Ones.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni*

Liturgist: *Kim Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 70

General Offering: \$1,320.00

Anonymous Donor (air conditioning unit): \$27,993.00

CARes: \$140.00

Online Offering: \$225.00

Total Offering: \$29,678.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

• Sunday, September 1

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

• Monday, September 2

Labor Day, Office Closed

• Wednesday, September 4

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Open Chapel, 5:30 p.m.

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

• Thursday, September 5

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

Horizons Bible Study, 6 p.m.

• Saturday, September 7

Rachel Dillon Wedding Shower, 1 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

During the month of September, we are collecting *wash cloths, combs, brushes, toothbrushes, fun band-aids, and nail files.*

You Are Invited!



We have some MISSES getting ready to become MRS. You are cordially invited to join in on their wedding showers in celebration of their upcoming weddings:

Rachel Dillon—**Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m.** in the Bethesda Community Hall. She is registered at Amazon, Target and Pampered Chef.

Summer Whitman—**Sunday, September 15, immediately following morning worship** in the Narthex. She is registered at Amazon.

Harmony of the Gospels

Christian Education is offering a new class this fall. This study coordinates the incidents in the Life of Christ as recorded by the Gospels. Some incidents are recorded in all four Gospels, some by two, some only by one. All are included in this study. A workbook is provided and, of course, the answers are only found in the Gospels. Come join us this Fall as we look closer into the Life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The class begins **Sunday, September 8, 9:30 a.m.** in room 11. All ages, High School–Adult. If you have younger children and want to attend, Kelly Hanni will provide childcare and a Sunday School lesson. Contact Jane Justice.

Youth Group News

FPC Youth Group is for youth in grades 7–12. During the month of September, we will meet on **Sundays, September 8 and 29** immediately following morning worship. Lunch is provided. For additional information or questions, contact: Bettie George Frye or Kelly Hanni.

Happy Birthday Max!

Please join us on **Sunday, September 29** as we celebrate the birthday of our own Max Jackson. There will be a reception immediately following Morning Worship in the Narthex. A basket will be available for cards and/or other expressions of appreciation.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending August 29, 2024

Brandon's family and friends (Lee McCloud)
Margaret Ruth (Kelly Hanni)
Our Nation

Week ending August 22, 2024

Amy Crookes
John and Judy Eby (David Eby's brother and sister-in-law)
Jay Sanderson (Scott Sanderson's brother)
Evelyn Spears (Kim Whitman's friend)

Week ending August 15, 2024

Don and Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto (Bettie George Frye)
Nancy (Rick) Grace (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; Jan Winans;
Ann Wiseman

The Lantern: Barry Barbour, Carolyn Graber

Woodland Oaks: Bob Miller

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins)
Cadet Katie Brown
(West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman)
Greg Weston (Kentucky National Guard)
Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
	<i>*2nd term of service</i>	

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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