



Sunday, September 1, 2024
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the Day as you prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Prelude

Pièce in D Major Nr. 5 from *L'Organiste*
César Franck (1822-1890)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24:3-5

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?

Who may stand in his holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not trust in an idol
or swear by a false god.

They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from God their Savior.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Rev. Mark van Stee

*Call to Worship

Leader: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

People: for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. (Psalm 24:1-4)

*Hymn of Praise #229 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Prayer of Confession

Nathan Wannemacher

Leader: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

People: We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

People: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (based on Psalm 51:10-12)

Assurance of God's Pardon

Nathan Wannemacher

Leader: This is what the Sovereign Lord says... I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

People: A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

(Ezekiel 36:25-26)

God's Will for Our Lives

Leader: Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

People: For if we live according to the flesh, we will die; but if by the Spirit we put to death the misdeeds of the body, we will live.

Leader: For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

People: The Spirit we received does not make us slaves, so that we live in fear again; rather, the Spirit we received brought about our adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." Amen. (Based on Romans 8:12-15)

***Gloria Patri #579** "Glory Be to the Father"

Words: Henry W. Greatorex; Tune: *Gloria Patri*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Song

"A Love Round"

Children's Choir

Traditional, arr. Nancy Gifford

Christine Weeks, Director; Janet Deden, Piano

Baptism (*Children are invited to come forward to witness the baptism.*)

Amara Lily Hofer

Children are dismissed to their Sunday School classes.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 51: 10-12 (p. 573)

Meditation

"Thank God I Do"

Music: Lauren Daigle, Jason Ingram, Alecia Moore, Jeff Bhasker, Nate Ruess
Claire and Heather Altermatt, Vocals; Christine Weeks, Piano

New Testament Reading

Galatians 5:13-26 (p. 1172)

Sermon

“Counter-Cultural Witness: Life by the Spirit”

Rev. Mark van Stee

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***Hymn of Response #321** “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

Words: Samuel Longfellow; Music: Orlando Gibbons

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Sue Knüsel, Elder for
Fellowship & Special Events

Offertory

Adagio from Choral Nr. 3 in A minor

César Franck

Ruth Pfister, Organ

***Doxology**

#592 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Words: Thomas Ken; Music: Genevan Psalter

Prayers of the People

Sue Knüsel

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

GOING WITH GOD’S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Guests

Sue Knüsel

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication** (Insert) “Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God”

Words: Horatius Bonar; Music: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl.*

***Sending and Pastoral Benediction**

Rev. Mark van Stee

Postlude

Fantasy in C Major BWV 570

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Please remain quietly seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

***Please stand if you are able.**

As we explore the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26) in our sermons this fall, our bulletin covers will feature various renderings of fruit. Today’s bulletin cover is French artist Gustave Courbet’s Still Life with Three Peaches and a Pear (1871).