



Sunday, August 3, 2025
Eighth 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

Prelude in D Major

Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer (1656-1746)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 107:1-3

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—

those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

those he gathered from the lands,

from east and west, from north and south.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Maio Chen, Council Chairperson

*Call to Worship

Jolene Blesson

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, for he made it:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

*Hymn of Praise -- #478 "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Prayer of Confession -- based on Psalm 51:10-12

Maio Chen

Leader: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

People: We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. 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. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. 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 Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon -- Jeremiah 33:8

Leader: The Lord says, "I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me."

God's Will for Our Lives -- Ephesians 4:32-5:2

Leader: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

People: Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Message

Barbara Bagajo

Old Testament Readings -- Psalm 107:1-9 (pp. 610-611)
Ezekiel 18:23, 26-32 (p. 846)

Jolene Blesson

Meditation

"In Christ Alone"

Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend
Spencer Bliven, Bass; Ruth Pfister, Piano

New Testament Reading -- Luke 19:1-10 (p. 1053)

Sermon -- "When Jesus Comes to Visit"

Rev. Dr. Chris Dippenaar

***Hymn of Response -- #370 "Just as I Am Without One Plea"**

PROFESSING WHAT WE BELIEVE

***The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Invitation

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Leader: With joy we praise you, gracious God...

Words of Institution

Leader: Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament saying:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit...

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray saying:

The Lord's Prayer

The Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Maio Chen

Offertory

Finale. Andante from Sonata op, 65 no. 6 in D minor

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

***Doxology #592** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

Prayers of the People

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Visitors

Maio Chen

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication -- #356** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Chris Dippenaar

Postlude

Little Fugue no. 8 in B flat Major BWV 560

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.***

Today's stained-glass window entitled "Zacchaeus receives Jesus" is located in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Jericho, Palestine.