



Sunday, September 7, 2025
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Nathan Wannemacher

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 16:5-11

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Prelude

Prelude in A Major BWV 536

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

*Call to Worship

Isaac Dennison

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: The Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: Praise the Lord.

People: The Lord's name be praised.

*Hymn of Praise – “Be Still for the Presence” (insert)

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

People: In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen

God's Will for Our Lives – Matthew 22:34-40

Leader: Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

People: "All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

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

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Message

Jenny Bärlocher

Old Testament Reading – Psalm 84 (p. 595)

Isaac Dennison

Meditation

"You Raise Me up" by Brendan Graham, Rolf Lovland; arr. Yee Lam (ELAM) Lai
Freya Bergholz, Harp

New Testament Reading – Revelation 19:6-9 (pp. 1247-1248)

Sermon -- "Person and Presence"

Nathan Wannemacher

***Hymn of Response – #207 "How Lovely, Lord"**

PROFESSING WHAT WE BELIEVE

***The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical, p. 14)**

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

Dennis Kuriakose, Elder for
Personnel, Property & Planning

Offertory

"El Shaddai"

Freya Bergholz, Harp; Sebastian Bergholz, Piano

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

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Visitors

Dennis Kuriakose

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication – #366** "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

*Sending and Benediction

Nathan Wannemacher

Postlude

Fugue in G Major

Nikolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

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

Today's bulletin cover is the Ghent Altarpiece, also called the Adoration of the Mystic Lamb, a very large and complex 15th-century polyptych altarpiece in St Bavo's Cathedral, Ghent, Belgium. It was begun around the mid-1420s and completed by 1432, and it is attributed to the Early Netherlandish painters and brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghent_Altarpiece)