

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 26, 2020

**Designates "Those who are able please stand."*

COMING BEFORE GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Peggy Stout

PRELUDE

Marty Light, Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsively*)

Tera Rockett

Come, people of faith, and let us worship the One who is the source of all things.

We gather to worship the God who knows us perfectly and loves us supremely. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

***HYMN**

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

#322 Blue Book

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (*Responsively*)

Tera Rockett

Loving God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, dwell with us today. We are hungry for your truth and thirsty for real peace. We need renewed hope and encouragement for each day. Transform the landscape of our souls and grant us the nourishment we need.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we offer our prayer and our praises. Amen.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Responsively*)

Rev. Peggy Stout

Eternal and Merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

Yet, we have strayed from your way, and have sinned in thought, word, and deed.

Grant us, O Lord, the grace to die daily to sin and to rise to new life in Christ. Help us to love you supremely and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

We ask all these things in the name of Him who lives and reigns with you, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS** (*Responsively*) Rev. Peggy Stout

God's mercies are new every morning. In Christ, God offers us forgiving grace and welcomes us into a community of trust, acceptance, and hope.

Thanks be to God!

***PRAISE RESPONSE** "*On Eagle's Wings*"

***And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of my hand.***

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*) Kristi Conner

Holy God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light unto our path. Grant us a willingness to hear and to receive the reading of your Word and to respond to the power of your Holy Spirit. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Psalm 23* Kristi Conner

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC "*Fairest Lord Jesus*" Chancel Choir

(insert recording from Sept. 30, 2018 or Mar. 3, 2019)

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Acts 11:19-26* Rev. Peggy Stout

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Peggy Stout

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

#601 Blue Book

CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Peggy Stout

The Lord's Prayer (*recording*)

Dawn Kilby, Soloist

(*insert recording from Mar. 25, 2018 or Oct. 28, 2018*)

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Invitation

Kathy Winters

Offertory

***Doxology** *"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Offertory Prayer**

HYMN MEDLEY

"They'll Know We are Christians"
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
"Blessed Assurance"
"It is Well With My Soul"

Ensemble

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Peggy Stout

***POSTLUDE**

Marty Light

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Acts 11:19-26

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. ²⁰But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. ²¹The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord. ²²News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion; ²⁴for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they associated with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called 'Christians'.