# Sunday, September 15, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**TODAY'S FOCUS**: Since we don't have a 5-second delay, we need to guard our tongues!

**PRELUDE** — Anneke Toomey

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** — Lin

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST — Lin

# \*OPENING HYMN

UMH #152 "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

1. I sing the almighty power of God that made the mountains rise, That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

- 2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food, Who formed the creatures thru the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.
- 3. There's not a plant or flower below, but makes thy glories known, and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne; while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care; and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

# \*CALL TO WORSHIP — Bonnie Clark

One: Can you hear it?

Many: The heavens are telling the glory of God!

One: Can you feel it?

Many: The law of God revives the soul!

One: Can you live it?

Many: The way of God rejoices the heart!

One: Do you believe it?

Many: We believe the word of God endures forever!

All: Let all who believe praise the Lord!!

Adapted from "Gathering Words" by Joanne Carlson Brown, The Abingdon Worship Annual. Used by permission.

### **OPENING PRAYER** — Lin

**HYMN** 

TFWS #2233 "Where Children Belong"

**CHILDREN'S STORY** — Lin

**SPECIAL MUSIC** — Rinn Choir

"Confession" by J. Snodgrass and I. Everett

**SCRIPTURE:** James 3:1-12 — Bonnie Clark

<sup>1</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup> Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

**MESSAGE** 

"The Five-Second Delay"

Rev. Lin Cheek

# **RESPONSIVE HYMN**

UMH #463 "Lord, Speak to Me" (vs 1-4)

- 1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of thy tone, As thou hast sought, so let me seek thine erring children lost and lone.
- 2. O strengthen me, that while I stand firm on the rock, and strong in thee, I may stretch out a loving hand to wrestlers with the troubled sea.
- 3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things thou dost impart; And wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

4. O fill me with thy fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow In kindling thought and glowing word, thy love to tell, thy praise to show.

**OFFERTORY** — Anneke

\*DOXOLOGY

**UMH #94** 

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Bonnie Clark

All: All-knowing God, we hear and we respond to your words of wisdom, your words of call and life. May these gifts, not only our money, but of our very selves— our words, our thoughts, our actions—be acceptable to you and help spread your words of life and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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# PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER — Lin

All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

# \*CLOSING HYMN UMH #549 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" (vs. 1-5)

- 1. Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; Brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.
- 2. With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn; Let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.
- 3. Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess; And let us love each other well in Christian holiness.
- 4. Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease; Be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.
- 5. Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son; As members of his body joined, we are in him made one.

## \*BENEDICTION — Lin

# **POSTLUDE** — Anneke

Prelude/Postlude—Anneke Song Leader— Wayne Liturgist — Bonnie

Accomp.—Anneke Special Music — Choir Children's Message— Lin Offertory—Anneke Organ — Betsy Violin — Rae Ann