# Sunday, August 24, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

**TODAY'S FOCUS**: **GOD'S GRACE.** This is the reason we worship: To "show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship, with reverence and awe."

**PRELUDE** — Betsy Foushee

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** — Lin

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST — Lin

\*OPENING HYMN UMH #220 "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

**REFRAIN**: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

- 2. Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: **REFRAIN**
- 3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: REFRAIN
- 4. Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear; Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: **REFRAIN**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP — Suzanne Gallagher

One: Children of God, we gather today to encounter God.

Many: We are not expecting to be terrified or dismayed, but to be welcomed and embraced.

One: We gather today to witness the gospel at work among us.

Many: We want to be part of the kingdom of God, learning to live out our faith, on earth as in heaven.

One: We gather today to declare our faith in God's unshakeable kingdom.

Many: We come with grateful hearts, trusting in the secure foundation of God's steadfast love at work among us.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March, 2025. Used by permission

#### **OPENING PRAYER** — Lin

**SPECIAL MUSIC** — Betsy and the Gang "Glory Bound" by John Carter

**HYMN** TFWS #2233 "Where Children Belong"

**CHILDREN'S STORY** — Sharon Goldade

**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrews 12:18-29 — Suzanne Gallagher

<sup>18</sup> You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup> Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. <sup>25</sup> See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." <sup>27</sup> This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken--that is, created things--so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

MESSAGE "Unshaken" Rev. Lin Cheek

**RESPONSIVE HYMN** UMH #160 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" (vs. 1, 2, 3)

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks, and sing; Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

REFRAIN: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

2. Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud; Whilst answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud. REFRAIN 3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go; From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. REFRAIN

**OFFERTORY** — Betsy Foushee

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH #94

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Suzanne Gallagher

ALL: Unshakable and Holy God, we bring these gifts before you, not as mere offerings, but as acts of faith in your unshakable kingdom. Though the world around us trembles, we trust in your steadfast love, knowing that in Christ, we are welcomed, transformed, and sent forth to serve. Bless these gifts, that they may be used to build your justice and mercy, bringing hope to the broken and light to the weary. With grateful hearts, we offer ourselves alongside these gifts, that we may be signs of your grace in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. Discipleship Ministries, for worship on 8/17/25. Used by permission.

#### 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 TFWS #2087 "We Will Glorify the King of Kings"

1 We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb; We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.

- 2. Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty, we will bow before his throne; We will worship him in righteousness, we will worship him alone.
- 3. He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth, he is Lord of all who live; He is Lord above the universe, all praise to him we give.
- 4. Hallelujah to the King of kings, hallelujah to the Lamb; Hallelujah to the Lord of lords, who is the great I Am.

#### \*BENEDICTION — Lin

### **POSTLUDE** — Betsy Foushee

Prelude/Postlude—Betsy Foushee Accomp.—Betsy Foushee
Offertory— Betsy Foushee Song Leader—Scott Anderson

Organ — Ginny? Violin — Rae Ann Norell

Special Music — Betsy and the Gang, "Glory Bound"

Liturgist — Suzanne Gallagher Children's Message — Sharon Goldade