

# Sunday, August 17, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

## Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

**TODAY'S FOCUS: FAITH:** Who makes up our cloud of witnesses? What about those who have helped us in our race, influenced us, but are not believers?

**PRELUDE** — Betsy Foushee

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** — Lin

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** — Lin

**\*OPENING HYMN** TFWS #2022 “Great Is the Lord”

**REFRAIN:** Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love.

1. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord! **REFRAIN**

2. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

3. Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:  
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** — Diana Murray

One: We may be tired, but we know we find our rest in Christ.

**Many: Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.**

One: We may be lost at times, but we know we are found in Christ.

**Many: Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.**

One: We may feel weak, but we know we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

**Many: Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.**

**ALL: May God be with us this hour as we prepare for the race to come with praise and thanksgiving.**

**OPENING PRAYER** — Lin

## SPECIAL MUSIC — ??

### HYMN

TFWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

### CHILDREN’S STORY — Lin

**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrews 11:29-12:2 — Diana Murray

<sup>29</sup> By faith, the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith, the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith, Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. <sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. <sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. <sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

### MESSAGE

“Surrounded”

Rev. Lin Cheek

### RESPONSIVE HYMN

UMH #710 “Faith of Our Fathers”

1. Faith of our **ancestors**, living still, in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy whene’er we hear that glorious word!

REFRAIN: Faith of our **loved ones**, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

2. Faith of our ancestors, we will strive to win all nations unto thee;  
And through the truth that comes from God, we all shall then be truly free.

REFRAIN: Faith of our **loved ones**, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

**OFFERTORY — Betsy Foushee**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

UMH #94

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Rev. Lin Cheek**

**ALL: Loving God, giver of all gifts, accept this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given, and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and goodwill among all peoples, and advance your kingdom on earth, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**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 #577 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;

Crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!

Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;

Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;

let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

**\*BENEDICTION — Lin**

**POSTLUDE — Betsy Foushee**

Prelude/Postlude—Betsy Foushee  
Offertory— Betsy Foushee  
Organ —?  
Special Music —?  
Liturgist — Diana Murray

Accomp.—Betsy Foushee  
Song Leader— Janice Bachmann  
Violin — Rae Ann Norell  
  
Children's Message— Lin Cheek