

## Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

August 27, 2023

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### GATHERING

*The people of God come together in the Lord's name*

**Prelude** - *Processional on "Westminster Abbey"* (Hymn 559) - Sir David Willcocks

#### **Call to Worship**

Our help is in God,

**who calls us to worship.**

Our hope is in love, that calls us to care.

**Come, let us bring our full selves to worship.**

#### **Opening Hymn 545\*\*** - *The Church's One Foundation*

The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation,  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder  
we see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping;  
their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
till, with the vision glorious,

her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

### ***Invocation***

**Gracious and loving God, bless us with your presence as we worship this day. Bless us with your love as we grow in love and mature faith. Bless us with your guidance as we give ourselves to you, to your church, and to your work in the world. Amen**

### **PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.*

### ***Anthem - Who Is the One? - Craig Courtney***

*Who is the One who bids us come together? Who is the One whose presence fills this place? Who is the One who spreads a feast before us, His own beloved to partake? Who is the One, who acting in humility, emptied himself, took on the form of man? Who is the One who trod the path of suffering, who took our place that we might live? Who is the One possessing all authority? Who is the One who speaks and stars appear? Who is the One who holds all things together, and is Himself before all things? Who is the One who reigns o'er all victorious? Who is the One who sits upon the the throne? Who is the One who went before us, to come again and take us home? He is the Lord of hosts. He is the great "I AM." He is Almighty God. He is the One among us now.*

### ***God's Word for Young Disciples***

#### ***Scripture Reading***

Matthew 16:13-20 (New Testament p. 17/16)

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE**

*The people of God respond to the Word*

**Hymn of Response 163\*\* - Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know**

*Ask ye what great thing I know,  
that delights and stirs me so?  
What the high reward I win?  
Whose the name I glory in?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.*

*Who defeats my fiercest foes?  
Who consoles my saddest woes?  
Who revives my fainting heart,  
healing all its hidden smart?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.*

*Who is life in life to me?  
Who the death of death will be?  
Who will place me on his right,  
with the countless hosts of light?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.*

*This is that great thing I know;  
this delights and stirs me so:  
faith in him who died to save,  
him who triumphed o'er the grave:  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.*

**Discipleship Moment**

**Offertory - How Firm a Foundation** - Jason Payne  
(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew.)

**Doxology\*\***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**SENDING FORTH**

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith*

**Closing Hymn 368\*\* - My Hope is Built**

*My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*Refrain:*

*On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When Darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil.  
(Refrain)*

*His oath, his covenant, his blood  
supports me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay.  
(Refrain)*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in him be found!  
Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
faultless to stand before the throne!  
(Refrain)*

***Benediction and Choral Response*** - (Hymn 666)

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

***Postlude*** - *Praise to the Lord the Almighty* - Jason Payne



**The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given**

in loving memory of their children, Keith, Robert, and Terilyn, and brothers, Morgan and Bob, by Glenn and Mary Ellen Atwood.

**Service Music:** Summer Choir

**Music:** One License A-731491

## NEXT STEPS

### ***The Journey Begins***

Matthew 16:16 - We are all on the journey of faith. That journey begins afresh each and every day.

### ***The church is on a the journey of faith***

Matthew 16:18a - The church's foundation for it's journey of faith is Christ the Rock.

### ***There is no institution like the church***

Matthew 16:18b - No institution transforms people's lives like the church.

***The faith that holds the church together, and keeps the church going is rooted in the good news that we are not alone!***

**Questions for Reflection:** How can I renew my faith in God each and every day? Who do I say Jesus is?

**Questions for Discussion:** What are some ways our church's foundation is in Christ? How can the church groups I'm in strengthen our foundation in Christ?

**Memory Verse:** "I am with you always to the end of the age" Matthew 28:20

**Readings for this week:** Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-12; Matthew 16:21-28.

## CHURCH NOTES

**New Service Schedule:** Beginning on Sunday, September 10, we will have a new schedule in the morning:

- 8:30 a.m. Morning worship and communion
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation
- 10:30 a.m. Morning worship/Children's worship

**Men's Time Out** is an opportunity for the men of First Church and the community to come together for a time of fellowship and discussion... and breakfast! It takes place on the first Saturday of every month at 8:30 a.m. The next meeting will be on September 2. Join us!

**Help Wanted:** Do you enjoy small talk with friends or strangers? Did God's gifts to you include sharing a smile and kindness to others? We need greeters for both services beginning in September. You would need to be at church 30 minutes prior to service and stay 10 - 15 minutes after the service. Please let us know if you prefer helping with the early (8:30) or late service (10:30). If you are willing to help, please contact Kim Kerr at 330 606 7736 or email at [kdk3rr@gmail.com](mailto:kdk3rr@gmail.com) **by August 30.**

**Youth Fall Kick-off and Family Meeting:** As summer begins to come to a close, we are looking at starting another year of Epworth Youth and Choir! This afternoon we will kick the year off at 3:00 with Road Rally, a photo scavenger hunt where youth go out into the community and take pictures of themselves completing challenges, followed by snack supper at 5:15. At 5:45, the youth will go to choir and Pastor Pippin will hold a meeting for parents and family members

**Rally Day Parents' Meetings:** Please plan to attend the important parent meetings being held for the following groups on Rally Day (September 10):

- Sunday School and Children's Worship** - 9:30 a.m. in Asbury Hall
- ROCK** - 4:30 p.m. in Asbury Hall

**Confirmation Classes** will hold their parent meeting on **September 17** at 9:30 a.m.

**Good Neighbors:** Good Neighbors is requesting the following items: tea bags, canned corn, baked beans, canned fruit, ramen noodles, jelly, baby wipes and baby diapers (size 4, 5, 6) . If you are able to donate any of these, please put them in the bin outside the church library.

**Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman:** The Women's Bible Study will begin meeting again this fall with this 10 week study of Esther, by Beth Moore. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened, or pushed into situations that seem overpowering, this is the study for you. Just as it was tough being a woman in Esther's day, it's tough today. You may choose between Tuesday night (7 - 9 p.m.) or Wednesday morning (10 a.m. - noon.) Please contact Kathy Kuzas at Ext. 212 or [kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com](mailto:kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com) to register. The cost of the workbook is \$15 and is due at the time of registration. The study will begin on October 3/4 and the deadline for registration is Friday, September 15.

**Change in Operation Christmas Child:** Acts of Grace Circle has decided that they are changing their collection program of Christmas gift items for children from Operation Shoebox to local programs for a variety of reasons. Postcards with the items being requested for each month are still at the Welcome Center and suggestions of local programs where these items can be sent are still being accepted. We appreciate your support in providing a better Christmas for so many children and hope that you will help us do this for our local neighbors.

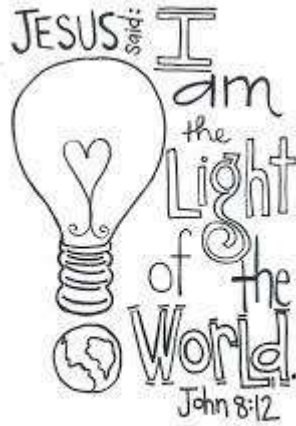
**Lighthouse Church:** First Church was recently designated by the Conference as a "Lighthouse Church" because of our commitment to the continuing mission of Jesus through the United Methodist Church. Anyone who is interested in participating in this ministry should attend the training classes:

**Sept 12 or 13: 9:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m.** "Leading Through Change with Grief Therapy Tools" led by Rev Laura White will help us all lead better by honing our use of grief therapy tools.

If you are interested in attending, contact Pastor Pippin to get registered.

**Acme Receipts:** Remember to bring in Acme receipts dated August 1 or later. The Cashback program is a great way to help fund the projects which will be done this summer at Work Camp!

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
AUGUST 27, 2023**



**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller, Kathy Kuzas and Donna Curfman

**HOSPITALIZED:**

Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Behrman family Jim Bailey Bill & Janet Blank Mark & Cindy Blaser Larry Brimlow Jeanette Carlson	Steve Donahue family Scott Hipkins Lee Minier Jack Nietzsche Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Christina Shaw Ken Tunstall	
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