October 23, 2022 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Music ~ "Open Our Eyes/Be Thou My Vision" (arr. Hayes) ~ Leigh Emmett

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude ~ "Goodness of God" (C. Winans) ~ Committed and Celebration Choir

Call to Worship ~ responsive

Leader: Who are you to have come here?

People: WE ARE CHRISTIANS!

Leader: What does it mean to be a Christian?

People: It means we are "FOLLOWERS OF THE WAY" (Acts 9:2)

Leader: What does it mean to be a "Follower of the Way?"

People: IT IS TO KNOW GOD'S LOVE IN JESUS OUR CHRIST, AND TO LIVE FAITHFULLY BEFORE GOD WITH ALL GOD'S PEOPLE.

Leader: Why have you come here?

People: WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP OUR LORD.

Leader: Welcome then my friends. Let us give praise unto our God with hearts and minds and voices.

People: GOD BE PRAISED FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

*you are invited to stand in body or in spirit

*Hymn #12 ~ "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison* HOLY GOD, WE CLAIM THE BIBLE TO BE YOUR HOLY WORD OF WISDOM TO US, A SOURCE OF LIFE AND A VISION OF HOW WE ARE TO LIVE. BUT TOO OFTEN, O LORD, WE HURRY TO YOUR WORD ONLY TO FIND A QUICK ANSWER IN TIME OF NEED, OR TO BOLSTER OUR OWN VIEWS ON SOME CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT. SLOW US DOWN, OPEN OUR HEARTS, AND GIVE US MINDS TO READ YOUR WORD SO THAT WE MIGHT JOYFULLY SHARE THE VISION OF YOUR KINGDOM WITH THE WORLD. AMEN. (A time of silent, personal prayer).

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #406 ~ "We Are Standing on Holy Ground" We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around; let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground. **Passing the Peace** Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus ~ "I Love This Family" (arr. C. Bowes) I love this family of God, so closely knitted into one, They've taken me into their midst and I'm so glad to be a part of this great family.

Offering Prayer

*Offertory #835 ~ "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (refrain only) Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea, daily walking close to thee; let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Psalm 146

Special Music ~ *"Everlasting God"* (B. Brown)

Christian Scripture ~ II Timothy 3:14-4:5

Message ~ "What Difference Does It Make" ~ The Rev. Dr. Loren Scribner, guest

*Confession of Faith ~ *responsive, standing, as able* Leader: We believe that

People: THE ONE SUFFICIENT REVELATION OF GOD IS JESUS CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD INCARNATE, TO WHOM THE HOLY SPIRIT BEARS UNIQUE AND AUTHORITATIVE WITNESS THROUGH THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, WHICH ARE RECEIVED AND OBEYED AS THE WORD OF GOD WRITTEN. Leader: We believe that

People: THE SCRIPTURES, GIVEN UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, ARE NEVERTHELESS THE WORDS OF MEN, CONDITIONED BY THE LANGUAGE, THOUGHT FORMS, AND LITERARY FASHIONS OF THE PLACES AND TIMES IN WHICH THEY WERE WRITTEN. THEY REFLECT VIEWS OF LIFE, HISTORY, AND THE COSMOS WHICH WERE THEN CURRENT.

Leader: We believe that

People: THE CHURCH, THEREFORE, HAS AN OBLIGATION TO APPROACH SCRIPTURES WITH LITERARY AND HISTORICAL UNDERSTANDING. Leader: And we believe that

People: AS GOD HAS SPOKEN HIS WORD IN DIVERSE CULTURAL SITUATIONS, THE CHURCH IS CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES IN A CHANGING WORLD AND IN EVERY FORM OF HUMAN CULTURE. (Confession of 1967 9:29)

*Hymn #451 ~ "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

A time for sharing the joys and concerns of our community.

Prayer Preparation#469 ~ "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit to this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison* 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

*Hymn #450 ~ "Be Thou My Vision"

*Benediction

*Response ~ "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (v. 1) Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Postlude ~ "When the Saints Go Marching In/Glory, Glory, Hallelujah" (arr. Hayes)

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Drop -A-Line!! TODAY brings an opportunity to connect with and encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ within our own congregation! Our church family is not always together physically for a variety of reasons: some are home or facility bound, some live far away, some worship online, some in person. So, it's not always easy to connect with each other. Yet, scripture tells us to "…encourage one another and build each other up…"

in 1 Thessalonians 5:11. So, today, the Faith Formation Committee will provide card packets along with addresses, so that anyone who would like to can pick up a packet, write an encouraging note, & send it to another! Each card packet contains 5 cards & addresses. We are asking participants to provide postage. Please prayerfully consider participating!

Highlights from the October 18 Session Meeting:

1- Congratulations to Gary Earnley for his work and report on the Mission Trip to Kentucky.

- 2- Stewardship begins November 8, 2022.
- 3- Website Update looking for volunteers to advise and help revise St. Paul's website. A meeting will be scheduled in January.
- 4- The Cavell House new renters will be moved in by November 1st.

Please hold those listed in prayer... and REVIEW and REPORT updates, PLEASE



Bill Garvey, Mike Graham, Janet Frank, Grace Erwin, August Kornowicz, Karen Bright Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton, Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Jerry Stone Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant, Bruce Phillips Sister-in law and nephew of Pat Garvey, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff, Steve Boyak Dave Schulz ~ nephew of Carol & Mike Graham Rita Czanko ~ cousin of Terry Earnley John Candiloro ~ friend of August Kornowicz Ray & Mary Clark ~ neighbors of Don & Meta Tulley Sarah & Mason Young ~ family of Judy McGregor Chris O'Neill, Tracey Ford, Phil Decker & Vickie McVeigh ~ friends of Judy McGregor Ben Abela ~ son-in-law of August & Faith Kornowicz Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie Whitlock Rosemary Iaquinta ~ sister of Cathy DeSautel; Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham; Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham Mark Osborne ~ son of the late Janet Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour David Bonandrini ~ son of Ben; Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips; Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis