

Morning Worship  
September 13, 2009  
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Coming Together in Christ

10:55 AM MEDITATION (Please pause in quiet preparation for worship.)

11:00 AM CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE and INTROIT

*World on Fire Theme Song*

Bill Buchanan

### Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on verses from Isaiah 61)

Andie Gambrel

*Please choose one statement that you feel particularly called to stand with. When you feel that it is time, then please stand and join others standing and read the text aloud. Remain standing. By the end, hopefully everyone will all be standing together—one in heart and in mind—for the liberation of all of God's creation.*

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon us and has anointed us. God has sent us to bring good news to the poor.

**Some: We will stand with those living in poverty, who are hungry, thirsty or homeless.**

Leader: God has sent us to proclaim freedom to the captives.

**Some: We will stand with those who are missing, in prison, or bound by fear.**

Leader: God has sent us to provide for those who mourn.

**Some: We will stand with those who are hurting, in need of comfort, and who feel lonely.**

Leader: God has sent us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

**Some: We will stand with victims of violence, war, and the cycle of poverty.**

Leader: God has sent us to let the oppressed go free.

**Some: We will stand with those who are excluded and on the margins of society.**

Leader: God has sent us to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor...

**Some: We stand with God our Creator as we celebrate all life, protect creation, and proclaim that the earth is for all.**

**All: We will stand together. We will follow God wherever God is leading us. We will go out blazing trails. We will set this world on fire!**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE

*I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*

(see insert)

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

Cameron Stroup

SILENCE

AMEN

Melissa Courtney

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Melissa Courtney

Lord, you asked for my hands, That you might use them for your purpose.  
I gave them for a moment, then took them back, because the work was hard.  
You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice.  
I gave you a whisper so I wouldn't have to defend anything I said.  
You asked me for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them, because I didn't want to see.  
You asked for my life, that you might help spread your love.  
I gave you only a spark here and there, Because I wanted to be cool and I wanted life to be fun.  
Lord, forgive my calculated efforts to serve you only when it's convenient to do so,  
Only in those places where it's safe to do so and only with those who make it easy to do so.  
Father, forgive me, renew me, send me out As part of your people, part of your Church, part of your fire  
of love and grace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON

Colum Dillon

Leader: We are able to turn from our sin and walk in the path of faith, because Jesus feeds us with his life and his love. Hear the Good News: those who are in Christ are new creations; the old life has been extinguished; behold, a new life burns bright for all to see!

**People: Thanks to be God. Amen.**

\* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

*Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

#76, Lift Up Your Hearts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Dillon

### Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children's Choir Recognition

Judie Brown

Leader: If there were no children singing –

**Congregation: The church that delights in the joyful sound of children proclaiming God's praise would wait in silence.**

Leader: If there were no children singing –

**Congregation: The foundations of our church music of the future would go unlaid.**

Leader: If there were no children singing –

**Congregation: The great doctrines of our church that have winged their way into children's hearts through hymns of praise, would, in a large part, lose their voice.**

**ALL: Thank you, God, for children singing and for the ministry of children's choirs!**

Leader: Bless, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple. Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, we may show forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\* HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Light the Fire*

(see insert)

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 3:1-12

Allie Gambrel

SECOND LESSON

Luke 15: 1-10

Cameron Stroup

THE SERMON

Melissa Courtney, Colum Dillon, Andie Gambrel, Cameron Stroup

## Our Response to God's Love

### \* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Colum Dillon

**ALL:** We trust in God the Holy Spirit, Everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, And binds us together with all  
believers in the one body of Christ, the church.

Males: The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

Females: engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with bread of life and the cup of salvation,

Males: and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

Females: In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,

Males: to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

Females: to unmask idolatries in church and culture,

**ALL:** to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice,  
freedom, and peace.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Melissa Courtney

### WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

#### OFFERTORY SOLO

*World On Fire*

Sarah Mclachian

### \* THE DOXOLOGY

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong;" Let the poor say, "I am rich"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.  
Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks**

### OFFERTORY PRAYER (together)

Allie Gambrel

**God of peace and love, we offer these gifts in response to the many wonderful gifts we have  
received from you. May our lives reflect our gratitude through our willingness to go out into the  
world as disciples of Jesus Christ, proclaiming the good news of your Kingdom in word and  
deed. Amen.**

### \* THE HYMN OF PARTING #302

*I Danced in the Morning*

Sydney Carter

### \* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Cameron Stroup

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

### \* SUNG BENEDICTION

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Dennis

(Please join hands as we sing the Benediction)

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love**

**The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

## Going Forth in God's Love

### \* THE POSTLUDE

*World on Fire Theme Song*

Bill Buchanan

**Docket**  
**Congregational Meeting September 13, 2009**

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Congregational Meeting Convened
- III. Determination of Quorum
- IV. Proposed Bylaw changes
- V. All other Competent Business
- VI. Motion to Adjourn Congregational Meeting
- VII. Closing Prayer

**Statement of Purpose**

Our Church exists to worship God and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Spirit, we shall serve God's Kingdom by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

**Statement of Vision**

We embrace open and progressive theology. Through education, training, worship and Session leadership we will realize our vision both individually and in community. We will be open to new ideas and programs while staying true to our beliefs and traditions. We will commit our personal and corporate resources to embody our Statement of Purpose. We will live our lives responsibly with honesty and integrity.

## What's Happening This Week:



### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER (13)**

9:30 AM Sunday School "Launch" Breakfast  
11:00 AM Worship Service, 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Montreat Service, Children's Choir Awards  
On the Air WCBC  
12:00 Noon Congregational Meeting

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER (14)**

9:00 AM Church Office Closed  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER (15)**

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
7:00 PM General Mission Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER (16)**

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
10:00 AM Staff Meeting  
6:15 PM JoyBells Rehearsal  
6:30 PM Local Mission Meeting at the Creamery  
7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER (17)**

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER (18)**

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER (19)**

8:00 AM Barrelville Presbyterian Church Yard Sale  
9:00 AM FPC Church Clean Up Day

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER (20)**

9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages  
9:45 AM Confirmation Class in Pastor's Office  
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 AM Worship Service, 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Elders Ordained/Installed, Blessing of the Backpacks  
Bibles Presented to 1<sup>st</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Veeda Javid, Guest Speaker  
On the Air WCBC