

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021

9:00 a.m.

+ Indicates those times where all who are able may stand.
Bold indicates congregational response.

Ringling of the Bell

Pastor's Welcome

Prelude "Fairest Lord Jesus" Danny & Liz Pace, 4-handed piano

Call to Worship (*based on 2 Samuel and Psalm 24*)

Come, let us come into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

We have come to worship our God, the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, and all that dwells within.

The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of celebration and joy...

That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.

We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom. Let us enter God's rhythm of life and follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray:

Holy God, we gather in your church ready for your Spirit to fall fresh upon our lives. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive your word. Grant us wisdom and courage in this life of faith to which you have called us. Let us not grow weary or troubled. Renew us with your steadfast love and tenderness, so that we may leave this place in the peace of your joy and mercy. In your almighty name, we pray, Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Psalm 24 (*Common English Bible*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us. We let ourselves be put off your pace and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs. Too often the melodies of the world confuse us. We have led ourselves and others to paths that are not according to your loving pace and direction.

Help us pay attention with all of our senses. Make our dancing faithful; help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead. Pull us back into your rhythms. Clean our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet that we might know and share your blessings.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

The God of Hosts assures us that if we trust God's Word, we will be led back to the songs that God would have us sing. God is eager to show us the path home. Accept the offer of the new song we have been given through Jesus the Christ.

We are forgiven! Praise be to God! Amen.

Service of Baptism for Augustus "Auggie" Michael Orf
son of Michael "MJ" & Megan Orf

Welcome

Address

Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "yet you have come to me!"

Jesus said, "Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires." So, John agreed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

Then a voice said from heaven, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Paul the apostle said: All who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ’s death. We were buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life. Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united to Jesus Christ and given part in Christ’s ministry of reconciliation. Baptism is the visible sign of an invisible event: the reconciliation of people to God. It shows the death of self and the rising to a life of obedience and praise. It shows also the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on those whom God has chosen. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God’s people always.

This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.

Question of the Candidates

Congregational Assent

Beloved Zion, Christ has called us into his church, to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of all creation, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in his baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. Christ promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end. Do you, beloved Zion, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Augustus Orf, the one about to be baptized as he lives and grows in Christ?

Trusting in God’s good grace, we promise our love, support, and care, this day and always.

Prayer of Baptism

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land. In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary’s womb. Jesus was baptized by John, in the water of Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by the water and the Holy Spirit.

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Act of Baptism

Prayer of the Baptized

This Child is now received into the continued love and care of his family and friends in the good hope that hereafter he may continue to brighten the world through his love. Let us pray for Auggie, baptized this day.

We give you thanks O Holy One, mother and father, heavenly parent of all the faithful, for this your child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as children in

the one household of your love. As Auggie has been baptized by our ministry into the Christian church, so may he, by your guidance, become one with Christ. Breathe upon him now and always your Holy Spirit. Grant that his love may be a blessing to his home and the world. Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this new member of the body of Christ. Grant the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ who makes us one. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...
Thanks be to God!

Special Music "In This Very Room"
Liz Pace, solo + Danny Pace, piano

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior
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. Amen.

Announcements

Giving from Our Hearts

Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, in whom is Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Receive these gifts into your grace, use them to the benefit of your glory, and help us continue to follow in your way. Amen.

Closing Music "How Firm A Foundation"

Benediction

Postlude "Let Praise Ring Forth" Broughton

Today's Call to Worship, and Confession Liturgy comes from *God Inspired Joy: Service Prayers for Pentecost Seven* was written by the Rev. Dr. Bertrice Wood of Cleveland OH used and adapted with permission from the Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. The Baptismal Liturgy was reprinted from *Book of Worship* © 2002 by permission of the United Church of Christ, Local Church Ministries, Worship and Education Ministry Team.

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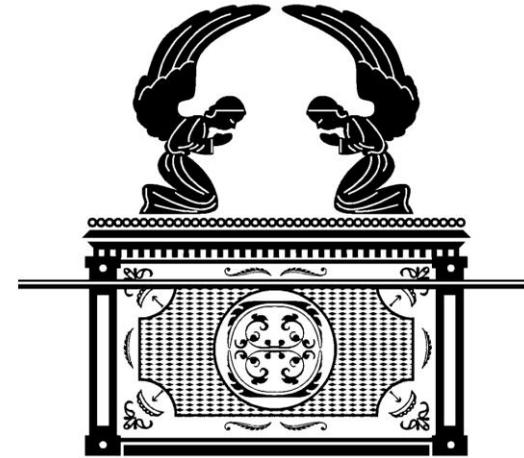
We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



*David and all the house of
Israel brought up the ark of
the LORD with shouting,
**and with the sound
of the trumpet.***

2 Samuel 6:15, NRSV

+ The 8th Sunday after Pentecost +

July 18, 2021 9:00 a.m.

**Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri**