

**18th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 26, 2021**

**Gathering  
God invites us to enter His presence**

**Prelude** *Adagio* *Kuhlau*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

**! Call to Worship** *Jim Fox*

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**

We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

**We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.**

Let us worship the Triune God.

**! Invocation** *Jim Fox*

Our Father,

you are in heaven, high and lifted up,  
higher than our highest thoughts.

Holy is your name;

beside you there is no other!

You are God, and you alone!

Receive us into your kingdom—the coming kingdom—  
the kingdom of your anointed Son, Jesus, whose name we bear.

Receive us, for we come to you in his name—

we pray in him and with him.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**! Hymn 381** *Open my Eyes, that I May See*

**Confessing  
God invites us to be honest with Him**

**Prayer of Confession** *Jim Fox*

O Lord our God, you have searched us and known us. You know not only what we say, but also what we think. You know not only what we say, but also what we almost said. You know how quickly our thoughts rise to praise ourselves because we are well-off or good-looking or

healthy or smart, boasting of your gifts as if they were our accomplishments. You know how slowly our thoughts sink to accuse ourselves even when we have turned our backs on you, fascinating ourselves with alien gods whose calling we heed while ignoring your own. Quickly boasting, slowly accusing, truly we need to repent. O God, forgive, correct, and heal us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Time for Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

*Jim Fox*

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him  
may not perish but may have eternal life.  
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world  
to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### **Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
A-men, A-men.*

### **Offering**

***Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him***

**Invitation** I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy,  
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and  
pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

### **Offering**

**Offertory** *Rejoice, the Lord is King*  
*Adult Choir*

*Darwall / Wesley*

### **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

## Prayer of Dedication

We are not our own; we belong to you. You have created us and given us life anew, O God, our Creator, Savior, and Sustainer. We extend our arms and open our hands to present our offerings to you. We make these gestures to display outwardly our hearts' overflowing gratitude for all your gifts. Receive these gifts from us, O Triune God, and through them bring life and hope to many. In the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Hymn

*All I Have is Christ*

*I once was lost in darkest night  
Yet thought I knew the way  
The sin that promised joy and life  
Had led me to the grave  
I had no hope that You would own  
A rebel to Your will  
And if You had not loved me first  
I would refuse You still*

*But as I ran my hell-bound race  
Indifferent to the cost  
You looked upon my helpless state  
And led me to the cross  
And I beheld God's love displayed  
You suffered in my place  
You bore the wrath reserved for me  
Now all I know is grace*

*Chorus  
Hallelujah all I have is Christ  
Hallelujah Jesus is my life*

*Now Lord I would be Yours alone  
And live so all might see  
The strength to follow Your commands  
Could never come from me  
O Father use my ransomed life  
In any way You choose  
And let my song forever be  
My only boast is You*

*Chorus (Repeat 2X)*

**Proclaiming  
God speaks to us through His Word**

**Children's Sermon**

*Training Wheels*

*Val Petrie*

**Prayer of Illumination**

## Scripture Reading

*Exodus 3:13—4:17*

<sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations. <sup>16</sup> Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, "I have observed you and what has been done to you in Egypt, <sup>17</sup> and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.'" <sup>18</sup> And they will listen to your voice, and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now, please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.' <sup>19</sup> But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand. <sup>20</sup> So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it; after that he will let you go. <sup>21</sup> And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and when you go, you shall not go empty, <sup>22</sup> but each woman shall ask of her neighbor, and any woman who lives in her house, for silver and gold jewelry, and for clothing. You shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."

**4** Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" <sup>2</sup> The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." <sup>3</sup> And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. <sup>4</sup> But the LORD said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand— <sup>5</sup> "that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." <sup>6</sup> Again, the LORD said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. <sup>7</sup> Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your cloak." So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. <sup>8</sup> "If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. <sup>9</sup> If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground."

<sup>10</sup> But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." <sup>11</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? <sup>12</sup> Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." <sup>13</sup> But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else." <sup>14</sup> Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, "Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. <sup>15</sup> You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. <sup>16</sup> He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. <sup>17</sup> And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs."

## Sermon

*"God Provides Help"*  
*Rev. Tim Latham*

Responding  
*We respond to God's Word*

! Hymn 405            *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place*

! Profession of Faith

I am righteous before God  
only by true faith in Jesus Christ.  
Even though my conscience accuses me  
of having grievously sinned against all  
God's commandments,  
of never having kept any of them,  
and of still being inclined toward all evil,  
nevertheless, without any merit of my own,  
out of sheer grace,  
God grants and credits to me  
the perfect satisfaction, righteousness,  
and holiness of Christ,  
as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner,  
and as if I had been as perfectly obedient  
as Christ was obedient for me.  
All I need to do  
is accept this gift with a believing heart.  
When I say that through faith alone I am righteous,  
it is not because I please God  
by the worthiness of my faith.  
It is because only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness,  
and holiness  
make me righteous before God,  
and because I can accept this righteousness  
and make it mine  
in no other way than through faith.  
—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 60-61

Prayers of the People

Commissioning  
*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

! Hymn 43            *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

! Benediction & Blessing

! Postlude            *To a Wild Rose*            *MacDowell*

