

The liturgical color is green, signifying life and growth
in the Christian Church, it is the fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Canon in D" Pachelbel
Amy Bender, organ

WELCOME Ben Chiappone, Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We are north and south. We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.

C: We are from this city and from others far away.

L: We are from big families, and dinners made for one. We are from stages of grief
and stages of love.

C: We are from hot summers and cold winters.

L: We are from kitchens with passed-down recipes, and front porches with old,
familiar swings.

C: We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.

L: We are from a lot of places, and I’ve been meaning to ask...

C: Where are you from?

***OPENING HYMN** “A Covenant of Grace”

We all come from the dusty earth And from the places of our birth Ancestral stories, who we’ll be We bring it all to “come and see”	We all need people who will be with us in solidarity No explanation, no defense Just ministry of their presence
We all have wounds that no one sees Oppression, trauma, and disease When we bear witness to the pain It can begin to heal again	Surprised by God’s unboundless love From many walks of life we come To build a covenant of grace And in our differences embrace

**Congregation invited to stand if able*

OPENING PRAYER

When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, they asked, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?” We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question. Can anything good come front that side of town? Those poor test scores? A criminal history? The opposite political party? A history of addiction? Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all of us regardless of our backgrounds. Open our eyes to see your goodness. Allow us to see and offer the kind of grace you offer us. This we pray, Amen.

Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

ANTHEM	9:00	“Simplicity” Canticle Bells	Matthew Compton
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	11:00	“Hallelujah! Thine the Glory” Chancel Choir	Mary McDonald
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SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 2:4b–9, 15 NRSV

SERVING & GIVING EMPHASIS

OFFERTORY	9:00	“Morning Has Broken”	Sondra K. Tucker
	11:00	“Let Me Listen”	Dan Forrest

***DOXOLOGY #94**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN OF CENTERING	“Near to the Heart of God”	UMH #472
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SCRIPTURE John 1:43-51 NRSV

MESSAGE I've Been Meaning to Ask: Where Are You From? Rev. Dr. Ivy Smith

***HYMN OF MISSION** "Many Gifts, One Spirit" UMH #114

***FAITH IN ACTION**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SUNG RESPONSE** "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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POSTLUDE "Prelude in F" J. S Bach



Altar Flowers are presented by Kim & Dana Ludwig
In Loving Memory of Gloria & Jack Meyer,
Parents, Grandparents, Great Grandparents and
Helen Meyer, Howard & Fanny Ulch, and Jack Ulch

October 22 and 27 are open for Flower dedications.
For flowers please call Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485

For information on events, missions, and other church news check out the
Weekly Update which is available in the Narthex & in the Information Hub

MENTOR
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Fill out a
Connect Card
online.



September 10, 2023

Traditional Worship

I've been meaning to ask...



"Come & See" by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

where are you from?