

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

PRELUDE "Prelude in Classic Style" Gordon Young
Amy Bender, organ

WELCOME Willie Dycks, Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

How many of you have ever had a bad day,
and found someone offering you unsolicited advice?
How many of you have ever had a bad week and had someone,
rush in suggesting how you might fix your life?
We have all been there,
and we have all done that.
Our scriptures remind us today that often in the face of hurt,
what people really need,
is not a list of advice or solutions,
but the simple presence of compassion.

***OPENING HYMN** "I Love to Tell the Story" UMH #156

Hymn History: The words to this hymn are from a poem written by Arabella Katherine Hankey. She was born in London in 1834. Though a devout Anglican, she was inspired by the Methodist revival of John Wesley. She developed a serious illness in 1866 and was bedridden for a long period. While recovering, she wrote the poem, Tell Me the Old Old Story of Unseen Things Above. She recovered from her illness and lived to age 77, dying in 1911.

OPENING PRAYER

With thanksgiving and praise in our hearts, we are open to worship. O God, today, we seek your guidance. We seek your plan for our lives. We so desperately long to say the right thing, to do the right thing, to find the right solution. Forgive us, for imagining that we could possibly fix all the hurt in this world. Teach us to stand by others in their moment of need. And teach us how to ask: "What do you need?", and "How can I help?" Gratefully we pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Congregation invited to stand if able*

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

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC
9:00 "How Beautiful" arr. Joel Raney
Judy Elias, flute

11:00 "God Is My Rock" Allen Pote
Chancel Choir; Bonnie Budziak, accompanist

SCRIPTURE READING II Timothy 4:9-18

KIN-DOM SIGNS

OFFERTORY 9:00 "It Is Well with My Soul" arr. Molly Ijames
11:00 "Sweet are the Prayers of a Friend" Pepper Choplin

***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**
When we care about someone in need, it is easy to give to them.
So as we give today, expand our giving to help those in need. Those we don't know
and who don't know us. Allow the love of God to show through this offering. Amen.

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I've been meaning to ask...what do you need?
When someone is hurting in this community,
we show up with casseroles and desserts.
When someone's house burns down,
we collect clothes, shoes, furniture.
When someone is sick or shut in,
we visit and hold their hand.
When a flood, fire, or hurricane hits,
we respond swiftly.
So today, God asks us "what do we need?"
In order to answer, we need to surrender, surrender all.
Job needed his friends. Paul needed Timothy. Jesus needed the disciples.
We need each other.

HYMN OF CENTERING "I Need You to Survive" see insert, Hezekiah Walker

SCRIPTURE Job 2:11-13 NRSV

MESSAGE I've Been Meaning to Ask...What Do You Need? Rev. Dr. Ivy Smith

HYMN OF MISSION "I Need Thee Every Hour" UMH #397

*FAITH IN ACTION

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SONG 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 "Festival Postlude" Zipoli



Altar Flowers are presented by Anonymous
In Loving Appreciation of Amy Bender & the Music Ministry

October 27 is 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
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Traditional Worship
September 24, 2023

I've been meaning to ask...



"Break Open" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity,
"Ever Wider" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity,
"Paul in Prison" by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

what do you need?

where are you from? where does it hurt?
where do we go from here?