

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR JULY 16, 2023

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

**INTROIT 171** *A Sower Came from Ancient Hills (vrs.1)* SEACHRIST

## Gathering Around The Word

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Matt. 11:28-29*

One: Come, all you who carry heavy burdens,  
and Christ will give you rest.

All: **For he is gentle and humble in heart;  
in him we find rest for our souls.**

**\*HYMN 321** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *from Gen. 25:19-34*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)** *from Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23*

**Patient and persistent God,  
we come, polished and presentable,  
to this comfortable room  
as if we knew what to expect,  
as if this were a safe and predictable place,  
as if we could simply observe.**

**Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations.  
In the mystery of your love, overshadow us.  
Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts  
until we bloom and spill with your passion  
to serve in a world that is wasting. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *from Rom. 8:1*

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God dwells in you. If you hear nothing else today, hear these words: there is no condemnation. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**  
*We invite you to share the peace of Christ with others.*

**\*RESPONSE 581** 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. Amen, amen.**

*\*for portions marked with an asterisk, you're invited to rise in body or spirit*

## Listening To the Word

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF GOD'S WORD

**FIRST READING** GENESIS 25:19-34  
*(The scripture readings can be found on the side panel of the bulletin)*

**ANTHEM** *Thy Word* WORDS & MUSIC:  
MICHAEL W. SMITH

**SECOND READING** MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

**SERMON** Ginny Baker

## Responding to the Word

**\*HYMN 288** *Spirit of the Living God* LIVING GOD

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

**SHARING OUR PRAYERS** *See prayer concerns list, back page*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *page 35 in hymnal*

## GIVING BACK TO GOD'S KINGDOM

*We bring our gifts  
because tendrils of God's love have worked their ways  
into the soil of our hearts.  
Sisters and brothers, let us yield our lives  
to God's abundant harvest.*

### OFFERTORY

**\*THE DOXOLOGY 606**  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *from Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23*

## God Sends Us Forth

**\*HYMN 15** *All Creatures of Our God and King* LASST UNS  
ERFREUEN

**\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION** *from Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23*

### \*BLESSING

**HYMN 543** *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me(vrs5)* GREEN  
TYLER

### POSTLUDE

#### Visiting today? Welcome!

Please tell us a little about yourself!  
You can scan this QR code with your  
smartphone to fill out our online form.  
We would love to get to know you better!



#### This Week

**Wed., July 19 @ 5:30pm - "Garden to Table" Meal**  
**Wed., July 19 @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice**  
**Thur., July 20 @ 4:00pm - Deacon Meeting**  
**Thur., July 20 @ 5:45pm - Centering Prayer**

#### Worship Assistants Next Week

**Liturgist.....Mary Beth Waller**  
**Ushers.....Richard Wright & Mary Jones**  
**Sound.....Paul Guffey**  
**Coffee Plus.....Laura Wright**

**First Reading—Genesis 25:19-34**

<sup>19</sup>These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, <sup>20</sup>and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. <sup>21</sup>Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. <sup>22</sup>The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. <sup>23</sup>And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger."

<sup>24</sup>When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. <sup>25</sup>The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. <sup>26</sup>Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

<sup>27</sup>When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. <sup>28</sup>Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup>Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. <sup>30</sup>Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) <sup>31</sup>Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." <sup>32</sup>Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" <sup>33</sup>Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup>Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

**Second Reading—Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>If you have ears, hear!"

<sup>18</sup>"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."



**Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing**

The family of Diane, Linda Bonardel's sister; Pat Carpenter; Dave Fraley and family; Ed & Linda Cook; John Wright; Nora Harp; Jon Burlew; Hannah Vaught's Brother-in-law, Steve Cravens; Jeff & Kathy Bishop's daughter, Ashley; Jared and Ann Hines; John Joplin; Michael & Rebecca Davis; Jack Reynold's children; Bill House; Ed & Joyce Mick; Sherry Woodall's sister, Ardenia; Leslie Phillips

**Current Giving**

	Rec'd month of June	Needed Monthly	Received YTD	Needed YTD
<b>Pledged Offering</b>	\$8,975	\$13,934	\$80,686	\$83,603
<b>Non-Pledged</b>	\$5,106	\$3,154	\$25,242	\$18,926

**Assisting In Worship Today**

**Ministers**.....Every Member  
**Liturgist**.....Hannah Vaught  
**Ushers**.....Suzanne Kidd & Sue Guffey  
**Sound**.....Josh Jones  
**Coffee Plus**.....Linda Bonardel  
**Director of Music**.....Theresa Jean Kibby  
**Piano & Organ**.....Debby McDonald  
**Preacher**.....Ginny Baker

**Deacons:**

Paula Burlew	Eileen Stockham	Marty Whitson
Cindy Fountain	Mary Beth Waller	Katie Jones
Carol Prater	Susie Lackey	George Joplin
	Stephanie Ousley	

**Elders:**

<i>Class of 2023</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>
Forrest Brock	Charles Leveridge	Kelly Joplin
Kimberly King	Zack Vaught	Sharon Mandt
Chris Phillips	John Wright	Perry Waller

**First Presbyterian Church**

July 16th, 2023

**Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**



James Tissot, Sower. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59375>

**People of God, Welcome Home!**

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you.

We welcome you to worship, and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.