

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7th, 2014

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Gloria from Twelfth Mass* Mozart

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *Come To The Table*

+CALL TO WORSHIP from *Isaiab 40*

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Prepare the way of the Lord!

All: **In the desert make his paths straight!**

One: Every valley shall be lifted up; every mountain and hill made low. The uneven ground shall become level and the rough places a plain.

All: **The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.**

+HYMN *Creator of the Stars of Night* #4, vv. 1-3
Sung to the Tune: TALLIS' CANON

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Promise, we come before you every week and read a prayer of confession written by someone else, confessing sins that we may or may not be guilty of, and ask for your forgiveness. We say we are sorry and then go back out into the world very much unchanged, committing the same sins, confident that we can come back the next week and say we are sorry again and be covered. But we have confused being sorry for repentance. Forgive us for not understanding that you want us to do more than say we are sorry, you want us to change. Send us your Holy Spirit that we might truly repent and be changed, that we might go into the world and live differently as a result of being forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE *Creator of the Stars of Night* Tune: TALLIS' CANON
To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Afterward, children ages 4 thru 3rd grade may go to Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) while children in 4th grade and older are invited to worship with their families.

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING FOR TEACHERS

Sentences of Scripture
Call to Discipleship
Commissioning Pledge
Congregational Pledge
Commissioning Prayer
Charge and Blessing

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Here I Am, Lord* arr. Carter
+Doxology
+Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Malachi 2:17-3:4 p. 841 OT
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:1-8 p. 30 NT
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Preparatory Hymn *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* #5
Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer (Hymnbook p. 16)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

They are lifted up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People *Come Into God's Embrace* Frombach/McDonald

Prayer After Communion

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The United Church of Canada*

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in the true man, Jesus, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by his Spirit. We trust him. He calls us to be in his Church; to celebrate his presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

+HYMN OF SENDING *Song of Zechariah* #602

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Peace To You All*

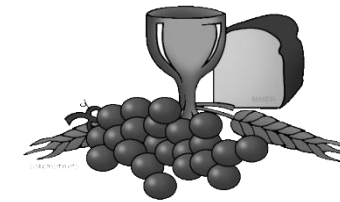
+POSTLUDE *With Trumpets and Horns from Water Music* Handel

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION Elders: Randa McCall & Danny Wilson

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Jill Childress
- the acolytes are Jeni Holt and Lila Godfrey
- the bell ringer is Joby Trivette
- the W.O.W. leaders are Grace Chi and Janet McGraw
- the nursery volunteers are Karen Peterson, Liz Edelman and Sydney Johnson
- the sound board tech is John Nowell



Communion: We welcome all who follow Jesus to the Lord's Table this morning, including children. Parents who wish to go get their children from the Nursery or from W.O.W. to celebrate communion as a family may do so during the singing of the Communion preparation hymn.

VISITORS: We are delighted to have you with us this morning and hope you feel at home. Please let us know a bit about you by filling in your information in the Friendship Register this morning. **A Nursery is available** for infants and children through age 4. If you need directions an usher can assist you.

HEARING DEVICES are available for the hearing impaired from an usher.

THIS MORNING WE BEGIN A YEAR-LONG SERMON SERIES on the *Gospel of Mark*. Many people think Mark's Gospel was the first to be written. It is the shortest of the Gospels and certainly has all of the drama of a quick, hasty story meant to grab the reader/hearer and confront them with the truth about Jesus, about God, and about ourselves! As we walk through this story over the next 12 months we hope to be as captivated and transformed as the first hearers were almost 2,000 years ago.

SOUND BOARD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are looking to add a few more operators to our sound board ministry. **No experience is necessary!** We will train you for what you need to do. With enough folks you will only have to do it once every other month or so. This is a great way to serve without a huge time commitment. If you are interested let Danny Wilson or Rick Ratliff know. If you don't know who they are – just tell Pastor Tim!

SERVICE AND OUTREACH Elders: Alicia Arney & Kay Bunn

THANKS FOR HELPING OUR KIDS.....The Service & Outreach Team wishes to thank all those who helped with the following projects for our neighborhood children:

- **Vacation Bible School** – Children collected approximately 28 boxes of diapers, 57 bags of wipes, 13 boxes of cereal and 17 jars of peanut butter for Faith in Action and the Kids' Backpack Program.
- **The Kids' Backpack Summer Feeding Program** – We packed and distributed 50 food boxes to Abingdon Elementary School families.
- **Back-to-School Supplies** – The Worship Our Way children assembled 37 school kits for Faith in Action families!

Many hands made the work lots of fun and rewarding! Thanks for your generous donation of supplies and time. Lots of young faces smiled because of you. Check out the missions' bulletin board for photos.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY
Elders: Georgia Crews & Rachel Fowlkes

WE WILL NOT BE SERVING SUPPER ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS this year prior to the Wednesday night Bible study. This was a difficult decision for the Congregational Ministry Team to make and recommend to the Session. We feel, however, that it is the right decision due to decreasing participation and increasing use of resources. If you would like to spend some time in conversation with others before the study begins we invite you to come early and do so.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: Lucy Phillips & Baird Smith