

*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 the life everlasting. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In our trouble and need, we look to the Lord,
the giver of our daily bread, saying:
God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer...*

LORD'S PRAYER: Let us pray together the words our Savior taught us:
Our Father, who art in heaven...

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Hungry (Falling on My Knees) Joshua Allen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you have chosen the poverty of the world
to make your people rich in faith. Help us to put our faith into practice through the
offering of our lives — giving food to the hungry, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the
poor; all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, your Word made flesh. Amen.*

— Sending —

***HYMN #542** God Be with You Till We Meet Again v.1

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

The blessing of the one God— Spirit, Son, and Father— be with you now and always. *Alleluia!*
Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things. *Amen.*

POSTLUDE How Great Thou Art Joshua Allen

Rev. Michele R. Goff Pastor
Joshua Allen Music Director
Debbi Ricci Admin. Asst.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



Personification of Fortitude, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*13th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 22, 2021
Service for the Lord's Day*

(* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE Wonderful Words of Life Joshua Allen
WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff
INTROIT Open the Eyes of My Heart Worship Ensemble
***CALL TO WORSHIP** Liturgist: Lynn Tieken

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
As we seek to love our neighbors, may Christ's love abide in us.

May we abide in love.

Let us abide in love, not merely with thoughts, but in truth and spirit.
Let us love not only with the words of our mouths, but with the attitude of our hearts.

May we abide in love.

Christ commands us, "Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." When we love another, the love of Christ abides in us.

May we abide in love.

With heart, soul, mind, and voice, let us worship God in love!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you have taught us
that all our deeds without love are worth nothing.
Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
the very bond of peace and of all goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

***HYMN #301** All Are Welcome

CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together:

*O Lord, you are near to the brokenhearted,
and you save the crushed in spirit.*

*Be near to us in our brokenness,
and love us into wholeness.*

*You are near to people who are hurting,
but we keep our distance to avoid hard conversations.*

*You envision a world where all needs are met,
but we hoard our possessions and cling to our power.*

*Be near to us in our brokenness,
and love us into wholeness.*

*By your mercy, forgive our sins.
By your grace, free us to try again.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

... *Thanks be to God.*

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you
in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE:

Joshua 24: 1,2, 14-18

Hear the word of the Lord for us.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

EPISTLE READING:

Ephesians 6:10-20

Hear the word of the Lord for us.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 84

Better is One Day

Worship Ensemble

GOSPEL:

John 6:56-69

Hear the word of the Lord for us.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Mind the Gap

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.**

— *Response* —

***HYMN #519**

You Are My All in All

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED - LYNN

*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;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,*