

**ORDER OF WORSHIP - SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**  
**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**GREETING**

Dr. John Hatton

**OPENING PRAYER**

**WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

Dr. James Humlong

**Interlude on “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”**

arr. Dennis Johnson

**INTROIT**

Chancel Choir

**Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness**

James K. Manley

*The congregation is invited to join in singing when cued:*

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;**

**Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,**

**Wind, Wind on the sea.**

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**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Joan Wooden

We are here because we have heard the call of Jesus in our lives.

**We are here to challenge and support one another to rise up and follow.**

We are here because we want to be God’s people.

**We want to learn more about what it means to be the people of God.**

We come, seeking to be moved, changed, and made whole  
by the Spirit of the living God.

**Let us open our hearts to the moving of the Spirit,  
and prepare to leave this place as true disciples of Christ.**

**\*HYMN 185**

**When Morning Gilds the Skies**

**\*A MODERN AFFIRMATION**

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,  
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,  
whose holy faith let us now declare:

**We believe in God the Father,  
infinite in wisdom, power and love,  
whose mercy is over all his works,  
and whose will is ever directed to his children’s good.**

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of man,  
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,  
the ground of our hope,  
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives,  
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance  
of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.  
We believe that this faith should manifest itself  
in the service of love as set forth in the example  
of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God  
may come upon the earth. Amen.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Kathy Philpot

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Pastor Parker Outman

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Spirit calls each of us.

**But we are often reluctant to hear the call.  
The wind of the Spirit blows, at times fiercely, and draws us onward.  
Yet we cling to fragile familiarities, to securities and to safety.  
Help us to risk letting go, to stand free as your servant people.  
Help us to capture visions of the future,  
so that we can truly be the church.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9, ALT)  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are loved and forgiven.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**HYMN 128**

stanza 1

**He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Pastor Parker Outman

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

**Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus**

arr. Dan Forrest

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

\*PRAYER OF BLESSING

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Dr. Douglas Herman

**Acts 18: 24-26 (NLT)**

Meanwhile, a Jew named Apollos, an eloquent speaker who knew the Scriptures well, had arrived in Ephesus from Alexandria in Egypt. He had been taught the way of the Lord, and he taught others about Jesus with an enthusiastic spirit and with accuracy. However, he knew only about John's baptism. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Dr. John Hatton

\*HYMN 571

**Go, Make of All Disciples**

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

Dr. James Humlong

**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

arr. John Innes

*This morning's liturgy:*

**Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession**- Reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Bread for the Journey*, ed. Ruth C. Duck

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