



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 2024 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by John and Caroline Otten.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding and Preaching Susan Crowell

Assisting Minister Patrick Preacher

Organist and Choir Director Jim Parham

Lector Mary Mueller

Prayers Ann Berlam

Communion Assistant Bradley Suddeth

Cantors Lani and Russ Wise

Acolytes Dan and Lexie Thomas-Harewood

Children's Worship Activity Leaders Anne Fagala

Anne Harmon Lara Wannemacher

Nursery Nell Orscheln

Praying for Possibilities Donice Winslow

Greeters Mark Allen

> Ann Berlam Bonnie Farmer

Frank Hawkins Harry Hawkins

Lindsay Hawkins Nell Orscheln

Joshua Rhodes

Ushers Richard Delap

> Danny Fagala Calvin Harmon

> > **David Potts**

Fellowship Hosts David and Karen Nichols

Video Henry Wilcox

Audio Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

HOLY BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In baptism our gracious heavenly parent frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Presentation

We present Frederick Marzavan for baptism.

We present Shepherd Evans for baptism.

James and Melissa, Brandon and Andi, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have these children baptized in Christ?

Response:

We do.

As you bring Freddie and Shepherd to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,

bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in their hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture them in faith and prayer,

so that they may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made,

and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Freddie and Shepherd grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response:

We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Freddie and Shepherd and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. Christ sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your children, no longer slave and free, no longer lonely and isolated, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Water is poured on the child's head, as the presiding minister says:

Frederick Marzavan/Shepherd Evans

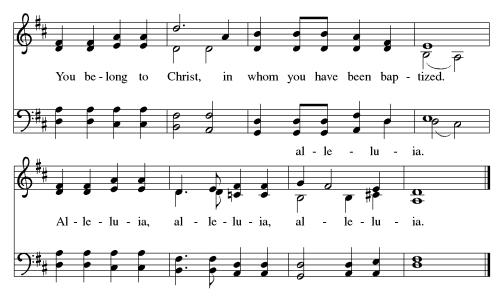
I baptize you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptismal Acclamation



We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Freddie/Shepherd with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Frederick Marzavan Whittingham/Shepherd Evans Moose child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Let us welcome Freddie and Shepherd into our church family.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death; that as Christ is raised victorious, we might live a brand new life.

And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,
we will all be reunited, for he lives.

In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread, in the waiting arms of Jesus who is raised from the dead, God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past; in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one; as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again in a song that has no ending. . . Amen

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, you are gentle and kind and full of mercy and grace and yet your gospel, the good news of God's love in Christ, is so very hard for us. The gospel asks too much of us, often demands more than we have to give, never stops challenging us to find ways to include more and more people, to change and evolve in ways we think impossible. And yet, as hard as it is, where else can we go? To whom can we turn? You have the words of eternal life. In spite of the scandalous nature of the gospel, we have no choice but to follow, to muster as much faith as we can, trusting that you will make it all enough. Give us the courage and strength to persevere in the gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

Word

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

A reading from Joshua.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²aAnd Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴"Now therefore revere God, and serve God in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the true God. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve God, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve God. ¹¹6Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake God to serve other gods; ¹¹for it is God our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. God protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹¹and God drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve God, the one who truly is our God."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The refrain is introduced by the cantor Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction





- ¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous, and God's ears are open | to their cry.
- ¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.
- ¹⁷The righteous cry, and I the LORD hears them and delivers them from I all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed. R
- ¹⁹ Many are the troubles | of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from | every one.
- ²⁰ God will keep safe | all their bones; not one of them | shall be broken.
- ²¹ Evil will bring death | to the wicked and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.
- ²²O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. R

SECOND READING Ephesians 6:10-20

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁰Be strong in Christ and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of God for the people of God.

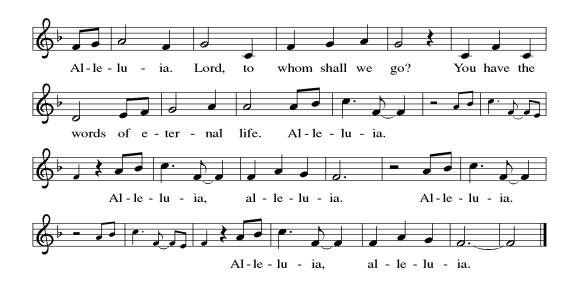
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

What Makes Us Strong?

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 6:56-69

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, 56"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Abba God sent me, and I live because of Abba God, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." 59Jesus said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. 60When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" 61But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? 62Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. 65And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by Abba God." 66Because of this, many of Jesus' followers turned away, no longer went about with him, and rejected him. 67So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" 68Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

The Scandalous Gospel

Please stand as able

"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?"

"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"

"Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Prayers of Intercession

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized in faithful speech and witness. Grant us courage to speak truth to power in your name, guiding us in word and deed to serve you in the world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Encourage us when we wrongfully feel our seemingly small efforts of sustainability fail to make a difference on a grand scale. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where sin has taken hold. Reveal your image in the marginalized to leaders and politicians who tend to ignore, or worse, persecute them. Bring about policy which safeguards the queer community, people of color, the poor, and all others who suffer under the cruel hand of oppression. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry out to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Bring your healing and protection as the world faces yet another COVID variant as well as the uncertainty of what is to come of the Mpox virus. Care for all those on our minds, especially those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of safety and refuge, protect us from ourselves. Bring an end to shootings and cycles of violence in schools, public areas, and homes. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Grant wisdom to lawmakers seeking to address the firearm epidemic in the U.S. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of new life, we give you thanks for the baptism of Frederick and Shepherd. Having passed through your waters, each of them begins their lifelong journeys as followers of Jesus. We pray that they may never go a day without feeling the power of your radical love. As you have clothed each of them in Christ, so clothe them in abundant grace to share with the world. Strengthen family, chosen family, and friends who strive to raise Frederick and Shepherd in the faith. Bless and strengthen James, Melissa, Brandon, and Andi to be faithful parents, so that their families might bear witness to your inclusive love for all people. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts setting by Hal Hopson

Adult Choir

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#674

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! Repeat

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. Refrain

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'ry where! Refrain

Let us pray, Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

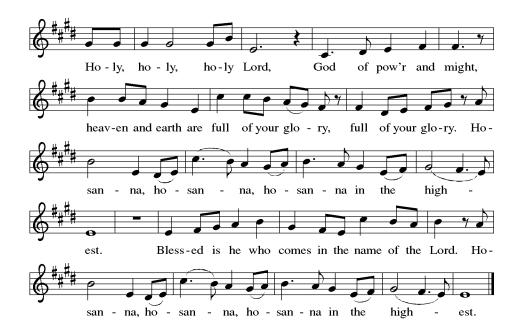
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 and ever. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

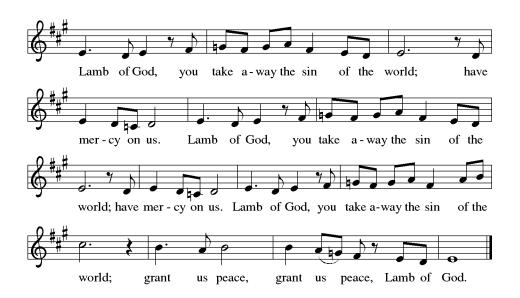
Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the bread into the wine to receive Communion by intinction.

Music During Communion



We are people created, chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.

We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.

We are nourished by water, all living things, and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.

As we journey toward home, may your presence be known: precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.

Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song. All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong. Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

Adult Choir

Bread of Life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us. Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.

Bread now break and wine now pour, Jesus, feed us. Make us one, our hope restore; feed us with your love.

Grant forgiveness in the feast—Jesus, feed us—for the greatest and the least; feed us with your love.

Thank you for this gift we share. Jesus, feed us. Save God's children ev'rywhere; feed us with your love.

Oh, Sing to the Lord

Cantad al Señor

822



- 2 Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios. Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios. Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios. ¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!
- 3 Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa. Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa. Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa. ¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!
- Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo. Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo. Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo. ¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!
- 5 ¡Jesus es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya! ¡Jesus es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya! ¡Jesus es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya! ¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!

"I am the Bread of Life. You who come to me shall not hunger, and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons,"

Refrain

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day."

"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever. Refrain

"Unless you eat of the flesh
of the Son of Man and
drink of his blood, and drink of his
blood, you shall not have life within you." Refrain

"I am the resurrection, I am the life.

If you believe in me, even though you die,
you shall live forever." Refrain

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who have come into the world. Refrain

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

#808

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey; I'll tell ev'ry body about you wherever I go: you alone are our life and our peace and our love. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.

May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant, to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears. For you saved me by giving your body and blood.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side. And with all of the fam'ly you saved by your love, we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#547

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.

Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Embrace the scandal of the gospel.

Even when life is too much, when you are weak and vulnerable, when you are tempted to throw it all away, to leave your faith behind, to abandon the church, to stop following Jesus, trust and believe that Jesus will never leave you, will never forsake you. Hold fast to the promise that God will always and forever

hold you safe and secure in the palm of God's hand.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Everyone is invited to gather on the front lawn following worship for refreshments and fellowship.

Baptized ad Set Free
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CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

> Amy R. Brown, Deacon Director of **Educational Ministries**

Patrick D. Preacher Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator Pastoral Intern

Angie H. McCormack Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

> Kay M. Cook Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox Accountant and Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig Administrative Assistant

> Roy L. Cook Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald Nursery Attendant

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Mike Boliek Treasurer

Danny Fagala

Greg Hamluk Calvin Harmon

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Chris Sorenson

Chris Wannemacher

421 North Main Street



Greenville, SC 29601-2000

