

July 23rd, 2023
8th Sunday After Pentecost
GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUIET HYMN: Surely the Presence of the Lord #328

SILENT PRAYER

*HYMN: Guide Me. O Thou Great Jehovah #127

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In the midst of strife, God is with us!

P: Sometimes it feels as though we have drifted away from God.

L: God knows every one of us and loves each one dearly.

P: Come, Holy One, and pour your word into our hearts.

L: In the anguish and grief of everyday living, God is with us!

P: Hear our cries, Blessed Savior, and quiet our spirits!

L: Come, let us open our hearts and spirits to the Creator.

P: We come, with confidence and hope in the presence of God. Amen.

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We are such a rag-tag group of people. Some of us are at the “top of our game” and others just struggle to get through each day. You draw us here where we will find friendship, peace, and hope not only for our lives right now but for all the times to come. Stand us up again, O God. Dust us off and put us back on the pathways of service and reconciliation. Warm our hearts with your love; lift our spirits with your power, for we ask these things in the Name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 44:6-8

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*HYMN: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light #206

THE WORD OF GOD EXPLORED

Pastor Joel Holcomb

GRATEFUL RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #95

*DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTOR

THE 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. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

*HYMN: Oh, I Know the Lord’s Laid His Hands on Me #2139

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

**Indicates standing if that is comfortable for you.*
