

*Your Friendly  
Community Church*



**July 23, 2023**

***Eighth Sunday  
after Pentecost***

**Rev. Laurie Brandes**

**Pastor**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Pratt

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**

Leader: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

**People: Where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?**

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

**People: See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

### \*HYMN

UMH #139

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful Lord of all Creation, we pray to you because you are the author of everlasting life. To you O God, we owe a great debt of gratitude for all that we are and have been and hope to become. Too often we believe that we are the products of our own talents and work. In this hour of worship we pray that you might bring us to our senses. Help us to take hold of the divine reality that you reveal in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Judi Rose

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

### \*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God of the Earth, our hearts are your fields. We hear your approach, bearing the seed you will scatter. Let your seed fall on fertile ground. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

### \*GOSPEL LESSON

NT# 14

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### SERMON

Rev. Laurie Brandes

"God's Farmers Market"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER

#### 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.

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lady Imperio

#### \*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH#881

## WE GO WITH GOD INTO THE WORLD

#### \*HYMN

UMH #357

"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*AMEN RESPONSE

"Let the Church Say Amen"

#### \*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you to our worship service this morning. If you are visiting, please complete a visitor's card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the school supplies drive for the Back to School Bash scheduled for this Saturday, July 29. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Tiffany Phillips or Rugina Brazell.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 25

6:30 Worship Committee - ZOOM

Wednesday July 26

5:45 Choir Practice - Choir Room

Saturday, July 29

11 - 2 Back to School Bash - CLC

## SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

You are welcomed to attend one of our Sunday School classes:

**Crossroads SS Class** meets via Zoom at 9am  
Contact L.W. Smith for Zoom invite.

**Pathfinder SS Class** meets at 9:45 am in the  
parlor in the Education Building.

**Children's SS Class** meets at 9:45 am in the  
nursery in the Education building.

## HEARING DEVICES

If you would like to use a hearing assistance device, please see an usher for assistance.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the book found on the podium located at the back of the sanctuary before the service begins. Your prayers will be lifted up.

## 2023 FINANCES

**2023 Budget = \$229,008.00**

**Need to Receive Weekly = \$4,404.00**

**Received for General Budget on 07/16/23=\$2,801.00**

**Received Year-To-Date (2023) = \$90,439.00**

We are excited to have you in our worship service today. We love that the walls of our building do not limit the impact of our ministry and have a wonderful community joining us today virtually. As such, we would like to remind all in attendance that your presence in our worship service indicates your approval that you and all minors you represent being recorded for our digital usage. This includes, but is not limited to, your image, name, and involvements in today's services.