

*Your Friendly
Community Church*



September 3, 2023

*Fourteenth Sunday
after Pentecost*

Rev. Laurie Brandes

Pastor

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Lady Abigail Imperio

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sherry Smoak

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come friends, the seeing and hearing God is present.

People: We have gathered to pause and consider God.

Leader: Come friends, the observing One has taken note of every misery.

People: We have set aside our work to honor God.

Leader: Come friends, the calling God is here.

People: Here I am Lord, use me in your service.

***HYMN**

UMH #402

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

We have begun to live for you O Lord, and with your help we will continue in your love. Abide with us this day and lead us in the path that Christ has shown us. We know that our lives are in your hands. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Thomas Peterson

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

B.J. Brazier

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Our souls are restless Lord, until we find rest in you. We turn our thoughts to you. Refresh us with your grace and fill our hearts anew. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***EPISTLE LESSON**

NT #151

Romans 12:9-21

***GOSPEL LESSON**

NT #17

Matthew 16:21-28

SERMON

Rev. Laurie Brandes

"Take Up Your Cross"

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

Lady Imperio

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH #12

WE GO WITH GOD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

UMH #338

"Where He Leads Me"

*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.

The Annual Epworth Work Day Offering is scheduled for Sunday, September 10. Please prayerfully consider giving to this most worthwhile cause.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, September 4

Labor Day (**church office closed**)

Wednesday September 6

5:45 Choir Practice - Choir Room

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 08/27/23=\$2,806.00

Received Year-To-Date (2023) = \$105,705.00

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.