

**Edgewood Presbyterian Church  
Homewood, Alabama  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Joint Service with Second Presbyterian Church  
September 1, 2024**

\*\*Please text any prayer requests to 205-924-5080 before the Sharing of the Peace.  
Please include your name unless you wish the request to be anonymous. \*\*

**Theme for the Summer** Getting to Know the People Jesus Loves

**Meditation**

*Jesus says, "Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples – when they see the love you have for each other." – John 13*

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Waters of Baptism**

**Prelude**

*Litany*

David Paxton

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Liz Deslattes, Liturgist

Arise, beloved of God, and live a life rooted in love.

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest...**

Just as spring flowers brighten the land,  
acts of love and kindness enlighten a dreary world.

**Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above...**

The time of action has come;

let us rejoice for the opportunities God has set before us.

**Join with all nature in manifold witness...**

Arise, beloved of God, siblings of Christ: impact the world  
as only the Church can – through love, mercy, and grace.

**To thy faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

**Let us worship God.**

## Prayer of the Day

### Hymn 35

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration!

2 Praise ye the Lord, who  
o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings,  
yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen  
how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise ye the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound  
from his people again;  
gladly for aye we adore him.

## Invitation to Reconciliation

### Prayer of Brokenness

**Merciful God, we confess that our words and actions do not always line up.  
We are quick to confess our faith, but slow to live it.  
We sing praise to your name, but we pass by orphans  
and widows on the other side of the street.  
Change us, O God.  
By your grace, transform us.  
Root out the selfishness that hardens our hearts  
and replace it with compassion and generosity.  
With your love, heal us – so that our ears attune  
best to the voices of the powerless;  
so that our eyes see only the faces of those whom you called “beloved;”  
so that our hands reach out in peace to friends and enemies alike;  
so that our voices never tire of confessing Good News;  
so that we might be doers of your word and not merely hearers.  
All this we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

*[Silent Confession]*

## Declaration of Forgiveness

Beloved, hear and believe the Good News:

**In Jesus Christ we are loved, we are forgiven, and we are free.**

## Gloria 583



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, with a fermata over the first measure. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with asterisks above the first and third measures. The lyrics are: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!" and "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!".

## Prayer for Illumination

### The Old Testament Lesson

**Deuteronomy 4: 1-9**

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### The Epistle lesson

**James 1: 17-27**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel Lesson

**Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Sermon

**“Loving from the Inside Out”**

Carl Martin, CRE

**Hymn 302***When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace*

O WALY WALY

1 When hands reach out and fingers trace  
the beauty of a loved one's face,  
we thank you, God, that love relies  
on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.

2 When fingers spell and signs express  
our prayer and praise and thankfulness,  
we thank you, God, that hands can sing;  
you bless the silent songs we bring.

3 When broken bodies will not mend,  
we thank you, God, for Christ our friend.  
In him, our healing can begin:  
he welcomes all the wounded in.

4 And when the ways we learn and grow  
are not the ways that others know,  
we thank you, God,  
that we have learned  
your love's a gift, and never earned.

5 Your Spirit gives us differing ways  
to serve you well and offer praise.  
When all are joined as one, we'll be  
your able, strong community.

**Sharing of the Peace****Announcements for the Community of Faith****Call to Offering****Offertory***Fairest Lord Jesus*

Music from: SCHLESISCHE VOLKSLIEDER  
arr. Stan Petel

Madeline Cagle, French Horn

**Offering of Tithes and Gifts****Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

## **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be 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.**

...we join our voices with saints, angels, and archangels singing the ageless hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...we are bold to lift our voices praying the prayer Jesus taught his disciples:

**The Lord's Prayer**

## **Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**

### **Communion Welcome**

Jesus says,

**I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.**

Siblings, all is ready. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

### **Communion of the People**

**Music at Communion**      *Abide with Me*

Music by William H. Monk  
arr. Dennis Alexander

## Concerns of the Church & Prayers of the People

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*Please include your name unless you wish to remain anonymous.*

### Hymn 546

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

SICILIAN MARINERS

1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us,  
O refresh us,  
traveling through this wilderness.

2 Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful,  
ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.

3 Savior, when your love shall call us,  
from our struggling pilgrim way,  
let no fear of death appall us,  
glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever,  
may we ever  
reign with you in endless day.

### Charge from the Steps

### Charge and Benediction

Carl Martin, CRE

### Postlude

*Ye Holy Angels Bright*

Tune: DARWALL'S 148<sup>TH</sup>

by John Darwall, arr. Franklin Ritter