

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021

Eleven O'clock

WELCOME INTO GOD'S HOUSE (responsive)

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me....
Congregation: **Let us go into the house of the Lord!**
Leader: Within the gates of God's holy city, we gather this day to claim the joy, the peace and the safe rest of the children of the Most High. Let us rejoice in God's holy gifts.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "The Old Rugged Cross Made the Difference" arr. Mary McDonald

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
For the LORD is a great God,
and a great king above all gods.

HYMN 2 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison)

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our daily lives, make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM "Abound in Hope" Mark Hayes

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 55: 10-13

The word of the Lord by the prophet: "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 8: 22-26

Jesus and the disciples came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?" And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

HYMN 835 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

SERMON *The Trees are Walking*

HYMN 837 "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

OFFERTORY "The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" arr. Tom Fettke

Offerings for God's work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Leader: Blessed are you, God of all creation.
Congregation: **Through your goodness we have good gifts to share.**
Leader: Accept and use our offerings for your glory.
Congregation: **And for the service of your kingdom.**
All: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Beginning with Joys and Concerns, and concluding with *The Lord's Prayer, in unison*

CLOSING ANTHEM "My Tribute" Andraé Crouch (revised)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Brian Buda

POST SERVICE MUSIC "Love Lifted Me" arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Please remain seated so that all worshippers, in the sanctuary and online, may enjoy the blessing of the music.

At the conclusion of worship, all are invited to join in the Church Parlor for a reception to honor the ministry of Mark Burleson, Church Musician 2002 - 2021

MARK BURLESON

Mark will be leaving Paw Creek to become the new musician at Soapstone United Methodist Church in Raleigh. His last day is today and we are celebrating him:

- There will be lots of music from Mark and the choir.
- We will sing hymns together during worship – MASKS ARE REQUIRED during the hymns (not during the rest of the service); please bring a mask, or get one from the ushers.
- Share in a wonderful reception after worship in the church parlor.

Today is a day of joy and a day of tears, and all together a day of thanksgiving to the Lord for the gifts of music, of friendship, and of Mark!

UPCOMING SERMON TITLES & SCRIPTURES

Sunday, July 25

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher:

Dr. James Thomas

Sunday, August 1

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher:

Rev. George Slaton