First United Presbyterian Church

September 15, 2024

**GATHERING**

**CHIMES** Set your heart for worship, if you must whisper, let it be in prayer.

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING WORDS**

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And, also with you!**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We are called to follow Jesus.

**All: But following Jesus isn’t easy.**

One: No. It will demand our dedication and our energy.

**All: It will change our whole lives.**

One: Come, all of you. Come and learn of the Lord Jesus.

**All: Lord, we come, seeking your wisdom and your guidance. AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #371 Lift High The Cross

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where the Master trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.  
  
Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
your death has brought us life eternally.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.  
So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory!

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord, it is easy for us to say that we will follow you; and then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to you does not mean anything to us. Jesus challenges us to take up our crosses, and when we don’t understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away. Forgive us for our lack of commitment and faith. Heal us of our greed and fears. Give us courage to be disciples and enable us to joyfully proclaim your healing mercies and your transformational love. In Jesus’ Name, we pray.. AMEN.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE TO PARDON** #570 Gloria Patri

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**All: And, also with you!**

One: Please pass the peace to those around you.

**\*GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE** #322 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, Mold me, Fill me, Use Me.

Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

**PROCLAMATION**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**EPISTLE READING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**  “He Paid It All” Ben Stahler, Pastor Greg

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** Katie Amidon

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 8:27-38

**SERMON** “8 Muscles” Rev. Greg Menssen

**RESPONDING**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** #316 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am wholly thine,

Until this earthly part of me, Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
but live with you the perfect life for all eternity.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORDS PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** #592

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #357 O Master, Let me Walk with Thee

Verses 1 and 2

O Master, let me walk with thee In lowly paths of service free;  
Tell me thy secret, help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear, winning word of love;  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, And guide them in the homeward way.

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

(Please remain standing or seated until the Postlude is completed.)

**POSTLUDE**

\*Denotes to please stand.