

A painting of a deer in a forest. The deer is in the lower center, facing right. The forest is dense with green trees and foliage. The text is overlaid on the upper part of the image.

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE  
LORD NEVER CEASES  
HIS MERCIES NEVER COME  
TO AN END;  
THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING.

GREAT IS THY  
FAITHFULNESS!  
LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

**Outdoor Worship in the Grove**

# **Worship Service**

## **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **June 27, 2021 10:15 AM**

*Worshippers present for in-person worship are invited to sing and read responsively. Masks are optional for outdoor worship. Please wear a mask whenever indoors.*

*The congregation is invited to read and sing text and lyrics printed in **bold type**.*

Gathering Music arranged by James Koerts  
**"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

Welcome

Announcements

Prelude by Battistelli et al

### **"If We're Honest"**

*Truth is harder than a lie, the dark seems safer than the light,  
And everyone has a heart that loves to hide.*

*I'm a mess and so are you; we've built walls  
nobody can get through; Yeah it may be hard,  
But the best thing we could ever do ever do.*

*Bring your brokenness and I'll bring mine,  
'Cause love can heal what hurt divides.  
And mercy's waiting on the other side, if we're honest...*

*Don't pretend to be something that you're not,  
Living life afraid of getting caught; there is freedom found  
When we lay our secrets down at the cross, at the cross.  
It would change our lives, it would set us free,  
It's what we need to be.*

### Call to Worship *Psalm 130*

**One:** Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord.

**All:** **Lord, hear our voices!**

**One:** Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our needs.

**All:** **There is forgiveness with you, so that you are greatly revered.**

### Gathering Hymn

pg 5 (*Hymnal 267*)

**"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"**

### Prayer of Confession

**God, we are often quick to recognize our blessings and claim them as gifts from you. But we're not often as quick to respond in kind, by giving of our tithes, our offerings, and our very selves. Sometimes, when God blesses us we are blessed to return the blessing; just as sometimes we are comforted so that we may give comfort. Help us to see all that we have as a reflection of your grace, and be quick to return our blessings to one another as quickly as they were given to us.**

*~Silent Confession~*

## Assurance of Pardon

The greatest gift we can receive is the gift of grace given by you. God, we know that we are forgiven because Christ lived, Christ died, Christ rose, and Christ will come again. In this reality we are set free. Amen.

Choral Response – *sung by Choir, then 3 times by Congregation in the style of Taizé*

**Bless the Lord, my soul,  
and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul,  
who leads me into life.**

Passing of the Peace (*air waves, no touching*)

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Understanding

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 130

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Sermon

**"Fair and Balanced Faith"**

Musical Reflection

by Laura Story

**"Grace"**

*I ask You how many times will You pick me up  
When I keep on letting You down?  
And each time I will fall short of Your glory  
How far will forgiveness abound?*

*And You answer, My child, I love you and as long  
as you're seeking My face, You'll walk in the pow'r  
Of My daily sufficient grace.*

*My heart is so proud, my mind is so unfocused;  
I see the things You do through me  
As great things I have done.*

*And now You gently break me then lovingly You take me,  
And hold me as my Father and mold me as my Maker.*

*At times I may grow weak and feel a bit discouraged  
Knowing that someone somewhere could do a better job.  
For who am I to serve You - I know I don't deserve You  
And that's the part that burns in my heart  
and keeps me hanging on.*

*You are so patient with me, Lord.*

*As I walk with You, I'm learning what Your grace really means  
The price that I could never pay was paid at Calvary.*

*So instead of trying to repay You, I'm learning to simply obey You  
By giving up my life to You for all that You've given to me.*

## Moment of Gratitude

### 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

pg 6 (*Hymnal 547*)

**"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"**

### Blessing

# 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;  
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

Participants in today's service: Jennifer Henning (worship leader), Scott Romberger, Greg Bitler (deacons), Leslie Beckwith, Eloise Bennett, Stacy Erdman, Kessey Kieselhorst, Steve Lewis (music), Laurie Clapper (children's sermon), Scott Lawvere (audio/video), Joy Christian (organist), Rev. Jason Clapper



**Flowers today are given to the glory of God, in  
gratitude for the gift of grace.**

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