



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence

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ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 13, 2023 (Proper 14)



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Wendy Lavey, Liturgist
Rev. David Wigger, Pastor

Doubt is not the opposite of faith; it an element of faith.

Therefore, there is no faith without risk.

~ Thomas Merton

~ GATHERING ~

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from Matthew 14)*

Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid.

Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.

PRELUDE

DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY

Jean Banwarth

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 86)*

*Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name. (Psalm 86:11)*

O God of steadfast love, trusting you,
we devote our hearts to learning and our lives to walking.

Teach us truth, **that we may walk with courage.**

Teach us mercy, **that we may walk with humility.**

Teach us forgiveness, **that we may walk with compassion.**

Teach us grace, **that we may walk with strength.**

Teach us wonder, **that we may walk with praise.**

Teach us goodness, **that we may walk with those in need.**

O God of steadfast love, **learning from you, may we walk well.**

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

GTG #740

by Doris Akers (performed by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Wausau, WI)

CHILDREN OF GOD

JABARI JUMPS

by Gaia Cornwall

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, it is easy to confess with our lips that you are Lord, but it is much harder to believe with our hearts, to live in a way that puts you first. We are quick to trust in idols. We depend on what we can see, touch, and control, instead of waiting to hear your still, small voice. Forgive us, Lord, and help our unbelief, so that what we confess with our lips we may truly believe in our hearts. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody (performed by C.J. Briggs)

GTG #551

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. There are no prerequisites, no disqualifications, no exceptions.

We are saved, we are forgiven, we are freed! Hallelujah! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~ ***THE WORD*** ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

TORAH READING

GENESIS 35

(Select Verses)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

Nina Simone

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 14:22-33

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

PETER WALKED

~ ***RESPONDING TO THE WORD*** ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(continued)*

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE** DOXOLOGY GTG #606
(performed by C.J. Briggs)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ **SENDING** ~

***HYMN** WADE IN THE WATER (Roud 5439)
African American spiritual (performed by David Hudspeth)

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING** GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN GTG #541
by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (performed by Ella Fitzgerald)

POSTLUDE TAKE ME TO THE WATER Earl Stewart, Jr.

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Call to Worship*, *Lectionary Aids*; *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri Ott. Cover Image:

Jesus walking on water. Armenian manuscript. Daniel of Uranc gospel, 1433.

Music for today's service recorded by C.J. Briggs or found on YouTube:

Prelude: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhGIuMs04lc>

Lead Me, Guide Me: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iu_rOlfcW4

Take Me to the Water: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJjmX1zKzPs>

Wade in the Water: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-mLwU0LPzeg>

Sending: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hK1GpgZMcs8>

Postlude: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy77YeZrFL0>