

# EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 30, 2017

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Gathering Music Jan Mauck

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Time

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *Fugue in F Minor* Charles Burney

**\*Call to Worship** *God's Faithfulness to Israel*

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

**O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones. Praise the Lord!**

Psalm 105:1-6, 45b (New Revised Standard Version)

**\*Song of Praise** *Praise Him! Praise Him!* 95

**\*Invocational Prayer**

Song of Faith *How Great Is Our God* WT

**Community and Congregational 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and glory, forever.

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

A Reading from the Old Testament Genesis 29:15-28

A Reading from the Apostles Romans 8:26-39

**\*Responsorial** *Seek Ye First* 349

**One Great Hour of Sharing Litany of Dedication**

O God of promises, you remind us again and again that you are present with your people.

When our hearts are broken, **You are here.**

When we wait in worry to hear a diagnosis, **You are here.**

When we lose the ones we love, **You are here.**

Where we are hungry and thirsty, **You are here.**

When we feel like strangers, and wonder if anyone will welcome us, **You are here.**

Where we are sick and in need of care, **You are here.**

When we are in prison, **You are here.**

When we need clothing, **You are here.**

**You, O God, are here with us when we suffer. Empower us to be with others as they suffer, our neighbors both near and far. You are here, God, amid suffering – and we want to be where you are. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory *Pastorale* Charles Wesley

Children's Message (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and younger to Junior Church)

**\*Scripture and Prayer of Illumination** Matthew 13:31-34, 44-52

Message: **"The Absurd and Auspicious Stories of Jesus"**  
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

**RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE**

**\*Altar Call of Invitation to Faith and Fellowship** – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling

you to follow Christ in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

\*Song *I Am Thine O Lord* 408

\*Spoken Benediction

\*Postlude *Con Spirito* Thomas Arne

\*Please stand if able

**THE AGAPE FUND COLLECTION** – West Side Baptist Church



receives a benevolence offering for the poor and needy the first Sunday of each month after the Lord's Supper. These funds are generously shared with persons in the church and neighborhood who have financial need. Please see the Pastor, Church Office, or the Moderator

to complete an Application for Assistance.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** – West Side Baptist Church

celebrates the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) on the first Sunday of each month. We practice "open communion." This means we recognize the Table of the Lord does not belong to any church but solely to Jesus Christ. Therefore, any baptized Christian is welcome to receive the bread and the cup in this Christian church.



**MISSION:** The vision of West Side Baptist Church shall be that we commit ourselves to continual personal growth, reaching out to win and nurture others in the love of Jesus Christ

**An American Baptist Church USA**

[www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org)



# ***The Absurd and Auspicious Stories of Jesus***



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