

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 19, 2020

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude "I Surrender All"
Jan Mauck, Church Pianist

Welcome and Announcements

Opening #358 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" *Beecher*
Matthew Smith, Music Director

*Call to Worship

O God of Bethel, by whose hand Thy people still are fed;
Who through this earthly pilgrimage hast all thine Israel led.
Our vows, our prayers, we now present before thine throne of
grace:
Great God of Jacob be the God of each succeeding race.

"O God of Bethel," Philip Doddridge (1736), English hymn,
© public domain.

*Invocation Prayer

*Song "Nearer, My God, To Thee" *Bethany*

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

A Reading from the Old Testament Genesis 28:10-19a

A Reading from the Psalter Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

You have looked deep into my heart, Lord, and you know all
about me.

**You know when I am resting or when I am working, and
from heaven you discover my thoughts.**

You notice everything I do and everywhere I go.

**Before I even speak a word, you know what I will say, and
with your powerful arm you protect me from every
side.**

I can't understand all of this! Such wonderful knowledge

is far above me.

**Where could I go to escape from your Spirit or from your
sight?**

If I were to climb up to the highest heavens, you would be
there.

**If I were to dig down to the world of the dead, you would
also be there.**

Suppose I had wings like the dawning day and flew across the
ocean.

**Even then your powerful arm would guide and protect
me.**

Or suppose I said, "I'll hide in the dark until night comes to
cover me over."

But you see in the dark because daylight and dark.

Look deep into my heart, God, and find out everything
I am thinking.

**Don't let me follow evil ways but lead me in the way that
time has proven true.**

A Reading from the New Testament Romans 8:12-25

*A Reading from the Gospels Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*Response "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder" *Spiritual*

**The Prayers of the People and The 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For
Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Offertory Jan Mauck, Church Pianist

Children's Sermon

Message "The House of God: A Place of Rest & Revelation"
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

***Invitation to Faith and Fellowship** – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God’s forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

***Song 501 “Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah”** CWM Rhondda

***Spoken Benediction**

Postlude

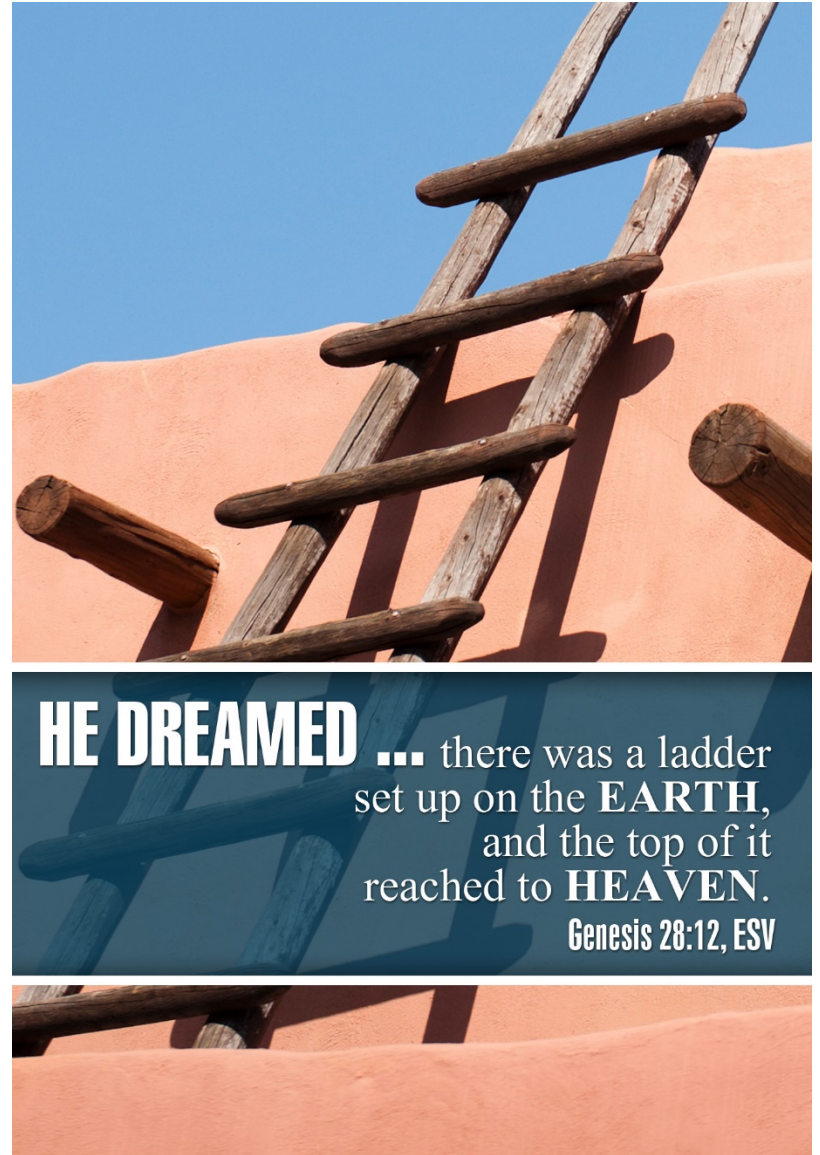
Jan Mauck, Church Pianist

**Please stand if able*

THE LORD’S SUPPER – We celebrate the Lord’s Supper (Holy Communion) on the first Sunday of each month, and on special occasions. All persons of faith, regardless of age, race, or church affiliation, are welcome to partake of the Table of the Lord. In solidarity with our brothers and sisters, we use only non-alcoholic grape juice. Please cup your hands to receive the sanitary communion wafer and juice sealed in small containers. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Call Pastor Ivan to receive homebound communion delivery.

BELIEVER’S BAPTISM – We practice “believer’s baptism” which is the immersion of a person in water – regardless of age – who receives Jesus Christ as his/her personal Savior and publicly professes faith to walk the Jesus way. The Council schedules baptisms on most Sunday mornings throughout the year. If you would like to be baptized, then come to the front during the last song.

American Baptist Church USA – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico. www.abc-usa.org



HE DREAMED ... there was a ladder set up on the EARTH, and the top of it reached to HEAVEN.
Genesis 28:12, ESV

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