

# 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude

Jan Mauck, Pianist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name

**\*Gathering Song (Stand) # "Ten Thousand Reasons"**

WORSHIP TEAM

**\*Call to Worship (Stand)**

The Lord suffers the people's pain.

God is not above our mourning and dismay.

**The harvest is past, and the summer is ended.**

**Salvation tarries, and the poor cry out.**

The heart of the Lord is sick of corruption.

God is grieved by our idolatry.

**Is there no physician, no balm in Gilead?**

**Then why have the people not been healed?**

The Lord desires that all people should be saved.

God summons everyone to know the truth.

**Come to the Lord, O people of the earth.**

**Offer up your prayers and declare God's worth.**

**\*Opening Prayer (Stand)**

Songs of Faith #40

**"For the Beauty of the Earth"**

DIX

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Karen Kirby

The First Reading

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

The Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

**\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)**

Luke 16:1-13

**\*Responsorial (Stand) # 631 "There is a Balm in Gilead"**

BALM IN GILEAD

Greet Your Family and Neighbors

**Children's Sermon** (Kids 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

**Announcements & Prayers of the Community 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, the power, and the glory forever.

**Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations** – The Bible teaches in Psalm 37:21: "The wicked borrows and does not repay, But the righteous shows mercy and gives." Let us give to the Lord with generous spirits and open hands from the righteousness in our hearts.



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Offertory

Jan Mauck, Pianist

Prayer, and The Message

**"Steady Journey, Joyful Ending"**

The Reverend Art Campbell, ABCUSA Retired

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.

**\*Closing Hymn (Stand) #466 "Take My Life and Let It Be"**

HENDON

**\*Spoken Benediction (Stand)**

Postlude

Jan Mauck, Pianist

## HOW TO BECOME A FOLLOWER OF JESUS

**GOOD NEWS!** God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) which have hurt God and others. Apologize to God, turn away from harmful behavior, and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer and Redeemer (Savior) and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

**HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD** – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and covenant of this may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator or come forward at a congregation meeting. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.



**American Baptist Church USA** – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today. Approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico.

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

<sup>†</sup>Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "The Joyful Feast: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship, Year C." ©2014. Cascade Books, Eugene, OR. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



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