

# SEASON AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Prelude** Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

**Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name** Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

**\*Opening (Stand) #50** "Great Is the Lord"

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

Nothing is covered that will not be uncovered.

Nothing is secret that will not become known.

**The one who acknowledges Christ, Christ will acknowledge.**

**The one who denies him will be denied.**

What the Lord speaks to you in the dark, tell in the light.

What the Spirit whispers to you, proclaim from the housetops!

**We know that Christ, being raised from the dead,**

**Will never die again. Death no longer has dominion over him!**

The death he died, he died to sin.

But the life he lives, he lives to God!

**Therefore, we too shall consider ourselves dead to sin,**

**And alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord!**

†Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship, Year A." ©2014. Cascade Books, Eugene, OR. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

**\*Opening Prayer (Stand)** Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

**Song of Faith** "Goodness of God" Worship Team

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Sonia Roling

**The First Reading** Genesis 21:8-21

**Second Reading** Romans 6:1b-11

**\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ** Matthew 10:24-39

**\*Responsorial (Stand) #428** "When Peace Like a River" *VILLE DU HAVRE*

**\*Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

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

**Announcements Mission Moment** **One Great Hour of Sharing Video**

One Great Hour of Sharing supports disaster relief, ministries to displaced persons, and development projects of the American Baptist Churches and its partners. The fund is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA. This offering is promoted in May and June.

**Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations** - Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord.

**Prayer of Dedication - 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.

**A Prayer of Illumination & The Message**

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

## WE RESPOND 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) #344** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" ASSAM

**\*Spoken Benediction**

**\*Postlude** Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist



## HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED 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 and 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 the 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 the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. 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, with 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)

JUNE 25, 2023  
GOD OF THE OUTCASTS

GENESIS  
GOD'S STORY | OUR HOPE

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