

THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JULY 16, 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)** "Shine Jesus Shine" Worship Team

***Call to Worship (Stand)**

Come to God, who has raised Jesus from the dead.
This same God gives life to your mortal bodies.

Our Creator lives among us.

The Holy Spirit dwells within us.

The Word of God is your promised heritage.

The light of Christ will show you the path to joy.

The Spirit of God is the source of our life.

Let us incline our hearts to our eternal God.

Set your minds on the things of the Spirit.

For to do so is to have life and peace.

Accept our offering of praise, O Lord.

Give us life according to your Word!

†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)**

Song of Faith "Build My Life" Worship Team

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Ashley Smith

The First Reading Genesis 25:19-34

The Second Reading Romans 8:1-11

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)** Matthew 13:1-9;18-23

***Responsorial (Stand) # 668** "Wonderful Words of Life" *BLISS*

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

Children's Sermon (Kids 3rd Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

Announcements & Prayers of the Community – 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 - Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord.



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Prayer of Dedication – God of the Covenant, you withhold no good thing from those who trust you. You give every spiritual blessing to those who set their minds on your Spirit. Receive these humble gifts and sanctify them by your gracious hand, that they might be used to your holy purpose, by your beloved people, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose might name we pray.

Offertory Special Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

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) # 544** "The Church's One Foundation" *AURELIA*

***Spoken Benediction**

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

HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

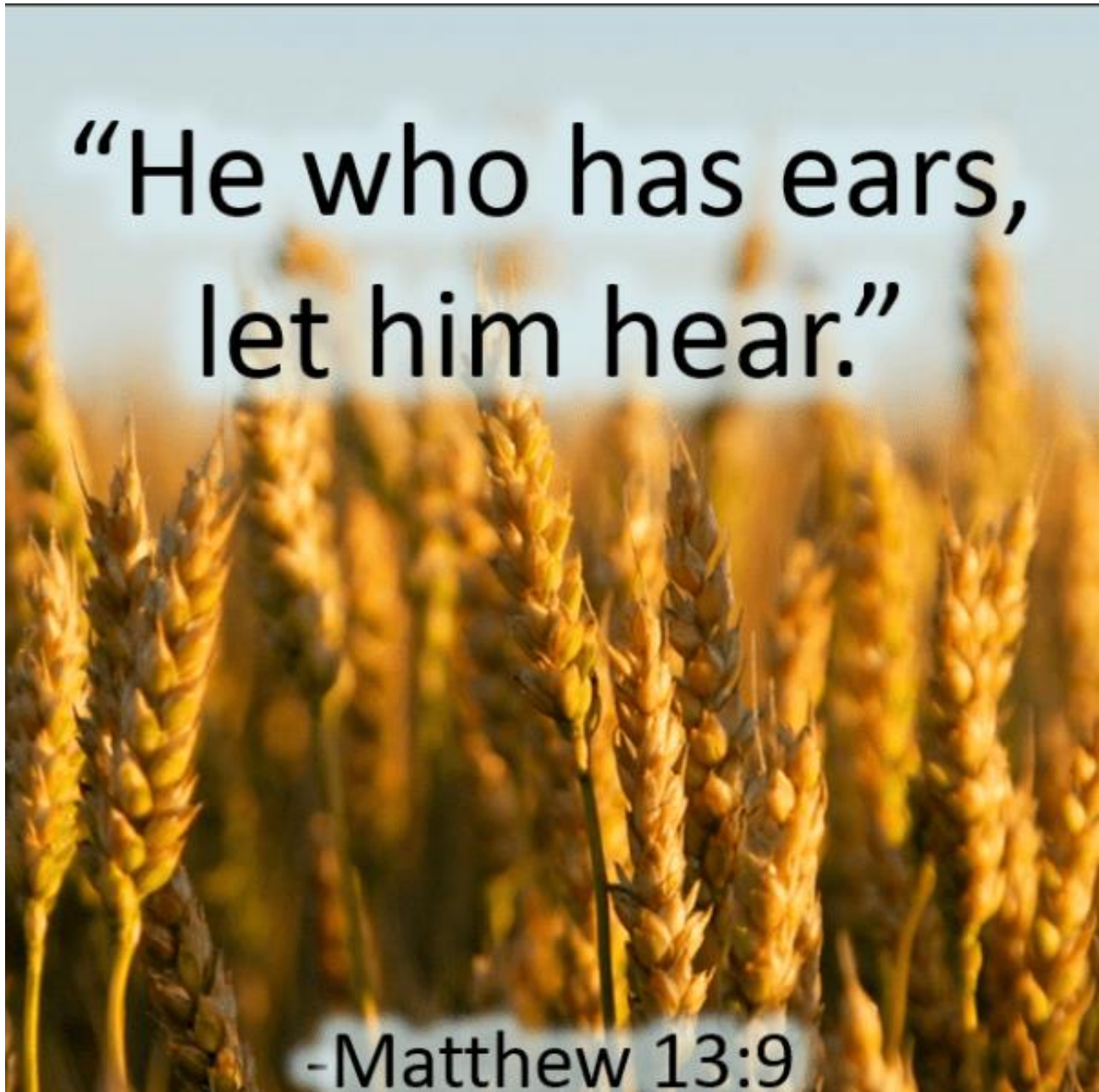
GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

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.



OUR MISSION – We love God and we love people by sharing the Good News of God's forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed to improve the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an independent, autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with like-minded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation and World.



“He who has ears,
let him hear.”

-Matthew 13:9

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