# THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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

The Ordinance of Holy Baptism

\*Opening Song (Stand) # 16 "The God of Abraham Praise"

\*Call to Worship (Stand)

Holy Lord, you heard Israel cry under the yoke of slavery.

Hear our cry, O great I am.

Jesus Christ, you ransomed many with your death.

Risen Son of God, come again in glory.

Holy Spirit, you overcome evil with good.

Unite your church in the bonds of peace.

God of our ancestors, you have suffered with us,

From generation to generation.

May your loving presence among us,

Bring honor and glory to your holy name.

<sup>†</sup>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 "How Great is Our God" Worship Team

#### WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Karen Kirby

The First Reading Exodus 3:1-15

The Second Reading Romans 12:9-21

\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand) Matthew 16:21-28

\*Responsorial #434 BH "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

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

The Children's Sermon

**Announcements & Prayers of the Community** 

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

Prayer of Dedication None of us truly lives until we live in you, O God, none of us gives in faith, unless we give in the name of Jesus. None of our gifts can bring life or liberty unless they are given with love, the love of your holiness. Make these gifts holy, we pray; make our hearts pure and our lives bright, burning reflections of your Spirit within us.



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A Prayer of Illumination & The Message

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

## WE FEAST AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

**Communion Song** 

**Matt Smith** 

**Invitation & Words of Institution** 

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, the power, and the glory forever.

Holy Communion: The Lord's Supper

**Breaking of Bread Passing of the Cup**The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven
The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation

# WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship

\*Closing Hymn (Stand) # "Bind Us Together" Worship Team

\*Spoken Benediction

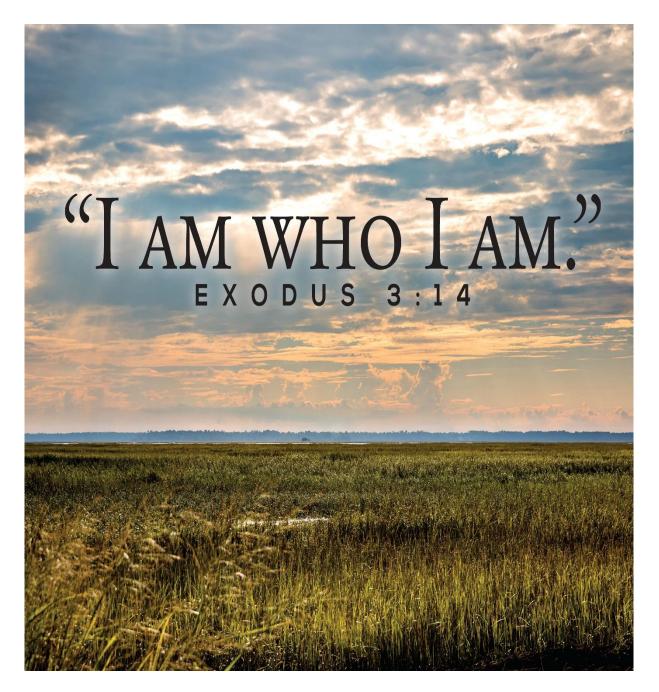
### HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

**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. <u>ADMIT</u> 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. <u>BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM</u> 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. <u>C</u>ONFESS 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. <u>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).</u>

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.



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