

A SERVICE OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Preparing for Worship: Worship in the Reformed tradition calls us to listen deeply to God's Word and to respond with faithful lives. Today's Scriptures remind us that following Jesus comes with both challenge and promise. He calls us to carry the cross (Luke 14:27), to choose life by loving and obeying the Lord (Deuteronomy 30:19–20), and to delight in His ways (Psalm 1). As we worship, may our hearts be open to the Spirit's shaping of our lives and witness.

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist

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

***Song (Stand) #68** "Holy, Holy, Holy" BEATTY

Call To Worship:

Leader: Come, beloved of God, and hear the call of Christ.

People: We come to choose life and walk in God's ways.

Leader: Take up your cross, and follow Him with joy.

People: With open hearts, we worship the Lord of life!

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

Song of Faith #526 "Cry of My Heart" CRY OF MY HEART

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Angie Foster

The First Reading Jeremiah 18:1-11

The Second Reading Philemon 1-21

Gospel Reader: Deacon Sonia Roling

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)** Luke 14:25-33

***Responsorial (Stand) #** "Take Up Your Cross"

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

The Children's Sermon (Children's Church for Students Preschool–3rd Grade)

Announcements & Prayers of the People

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations – Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord. "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High" (Psalm 50:14).

Offertory Special #529 "Change My Heart, O God" CHANGE MY HEART

A Prayer of Illumination & Message

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

WE FEAST AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Invitation to Holy Communion / The Table of the Lord[†] (Servers Prepare)

Communion Song 406 "Come to the Table" COME TO THE TABLE

Words of Institution 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, the power, and the glory forever.

Holy Communion: The Lord's Supper

Breaking of Bread The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven

Passing of the Cup The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation

Agape Fellowship Offering for Persons and Neighbors in Need

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND SERVICE

***Closing Hymn (Stand)** "The Blessing" WORSHIP TEAM

***Spoken Benediction**

Postlude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist

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) that 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 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, 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 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.

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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