

22ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | PROPER 17
AUGUST 30, 2026

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**All those able, please stand*

Preparing for Worship: What might God be calling you to leave behind so that you can more fully follow Christ? As we gather for worship, we will listen for God’s call, remembering that the way of Jesus is not always the easiest way—but it is the way that leads to life, love, and faithful discipleship.

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist

Welcome and Greetings in Jesus’ Name

***Opening Hymn # 237** “I Stand Amazed” MY SAVIOR’S LOVE

***Opening Prayer (Stand):** Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of Your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Song of Faith # “10,000 Reasons” Worship Team

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Pat Carpenter

The First Reading Exodus 3:1-15

The Second Reading Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Reader: Deacon Janelle Hood

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ** Matthew 16:21-28

***Responsorial # 437** “Wherever He Leads I’ll Go” FALLS CREEK

***Greeting our Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

The Children's Sermon (No Children’s Church – Summer Recess)

Announcements, Prayers of the People 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.

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations – King David’s chief musician and Levitical priest wrote, “**Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High**” (Psalm 50:14). Let us come before the Lord with joyful hearts filled with praise and hands overflowing with thanksgiving gifts.

Offertory

A Prayer of Illumination: In the flaming bush You promised deliverance to Your people, O God, and in the cross of Jesus, You embraced our suffering and pain. In times of misery, show us the transforming power of Your love that we may know the hope of Your glory, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Message

“The Question That Changes Everything”
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

“We all carry about in our pockets His very nails.”
Martin Luther, German Reformer (1483-1546)

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND 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.

***Hymn (Stand) # 434** “I Have Decided” ASSAM

***Spoken Benediction**

Postlude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist
Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc (CCLI) 11045747

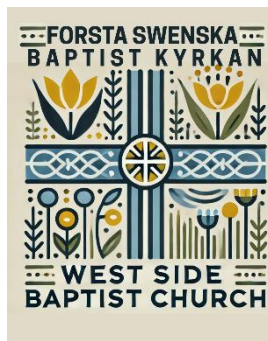
HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

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.



WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
1008 SW Fourth Street | Topeka, KS 66606
Phone: (785) 233-4241 | www.wsbctopeka.org