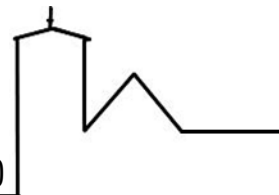


14th Sunday After Pentecost

(Proper 17)



GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

O Blessed Spring

Robert Bucklee Farlee

O Blessed spring, where word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine :
Here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving tree.

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.

Seek God in the sanctuary.

Seek God in the burning bush.

Seek God in the burning heart.

The Lord is here! This place is holy!

We are standing here on holy ground.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN 138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Nicaea

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*UNISON*)

God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy, or flawed. We confess that we believe we know better than you who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears, excuses, and self-doubt. Lend us your fire and strength as we go about the work of serving, loving, and building up our neighbors and tending the scorched places of our world. Help us burn for you without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE Hymn 565

Lord, Have Mercy

John Weaver

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*RESPONSIVE*)

Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead, and you are alive to all that is good.

In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 3:1-8a

The Word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.

*PSALM 26

Lord, Speak for Me, for I Am Yours

Perry

1 Lord, speak for me, for I am yours, and
 2 I do not sit with those who cheat, the
 3 I wash my hands in in - no - cence and
 4 I love your house, O might - y Lord; I
 5 I walk in my in - teg - ri - ty; re -

test my mind and heart. I walk with stead - y
 false who love pre - tense. I do not fol - low
 seek your al - tar, Lord, and, sing - ing there with
 love the ho - ly place where you in your great
 deem me, Lord, in grace. Se - cure - ly now I

trust in you, nor from your ways de - part.
 where they go, nor count them as my friends.
 thank - ful voice, your might - y works re - cord.
 glo - ry dwell; you vis - it us in grace.
 stand, O Lord; in wor - ship I bring praise.

Despite the concerns it shares with Psalm 1, Psalm 25 is not a declaration of blessing on those who live faithfully but the prayer of such a person to be vindicated by God. There is no prideful desire to seem holier than other people, only to appear before God without pretense.

EPISTLE: Romans 12:9-21

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The Word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "Get Behind Me"

Rev. Tim Mitchell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 321

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

Song 13

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON) *(adapted from The Confession of 1967)*

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. We believe that God has created the world of space and time as the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, transcendence and awe, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

We believe that God has created for us a personal relationship in which we may respond to the love of the Creator. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

The Peace May be Exchanged from Rubrics

Dan Locklair



SEALING THE WORD

INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS

In your mercy... **Lord, hear our prayer**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (PRAYING TOGETHER)

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;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen

CARRYING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN 393

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Bourbon

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Postlude

Fanfare and Trumpet Tune on Nicaea

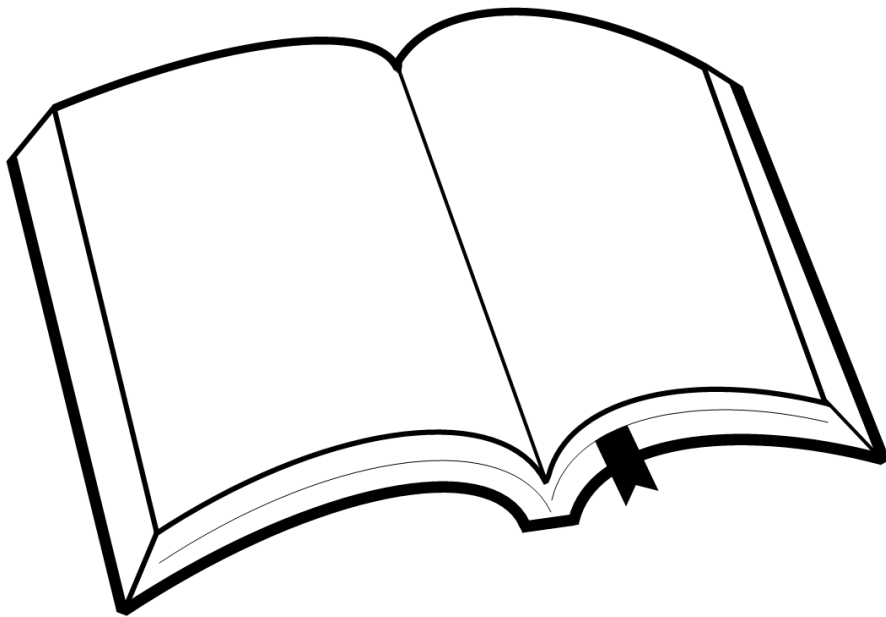
Christopher Tambling

Leading in worship today:

Rev. Tim Mitchell

Polly Brecht, Organist-Choirmaster

14th Sunday after Pentecost



8.30.26

Open Mind Open Hands Open Heart

Westminster Presbyterian Church • 1420 W. Moss Ave., Peoria, IL 61606

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