

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven... Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying Worship Ensemble

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #607** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God, From whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you have chosen the poverty of the world to make your people rich in faith.
Help us to put our faith into practice through the offering of our lives—
giving food to the hungry, clothes to the naked,
and shelter to the poor; all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,
your Word made flesh. Amen.*

— *Sending* —

***HYMN #821** My Life Flows On

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May we leave this house of worship today, quick to listen, slow to speak, open to hearing and responding to God's truth.

May God bless you and keep you, be kind and gracious to you, may God look upon you with favor and bring you peace. **Amen.**

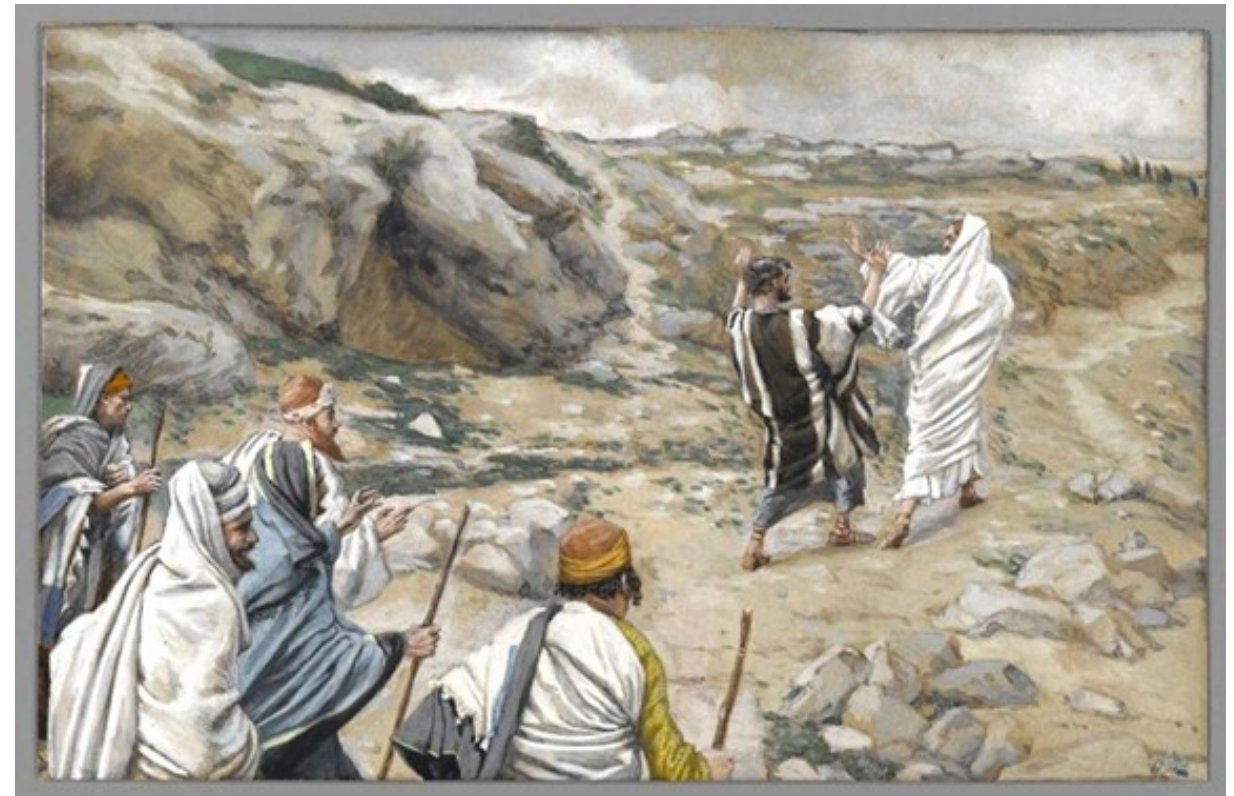
POSTLUDE **Just a Closer Walk With Thee** Joshua Allen

Rev. Michele R. Goff Pastor
Joshua Allen Music Director
Debbi Ricci Admin. Asst.



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*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



Get Thee Behind Me, Satan!, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

*16th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 12, 2021
Service for the Lord's Day*

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE	For the Beauty of the Earth	Joshua Allen
WELCOME		Rev. Michele Goff
INTROIT	From the Rising of the Sun	Worship Ensemble
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Liturgist: John Tieken

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asked,
and Peter answered, “The Messiah.”

Let us worship the One who is our savior
and follow in Christ’s path of love.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN #667** When Morning Gilds the Skies

CONFESSION

Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin together:

*O Lord, you have called us to take up our cross and follow you:
to carry the truth of your justice like a banner
and bear the yoke of life as your servant.*

We are hesitant, O God, to serve anyone but ourselves.

We draw away from the imagery of the cross,

forgetting that, in you, it has become a source of glory.

Forgive us, O God, and call us once more

to set aside our selfishness and follow in your way.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! *Thanks be to God.*

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE	Proverbs 1:20-33	Bible p. 552
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The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

EPISTLE READING	James 3:1-12	Bible p. 216
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Hear the word of the Lord for us.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL	Mark 8:27-38	Bible p. 41
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Hear the word of the Lord for us.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON **Who Do You Say That I Am?**

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.**

***HYMN #839** **Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES’ CREED

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In our trouble and need, we look to the Lord, the giver of our daily bread, saying:

God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for the church . . .

Strengthen us to follow Christ more faithfully, denying ourselves, taking up his cross,
and devoting our lives to your glory.

God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for the world . . .

Help us all to heed your voice of wisdom, calling out for compassion and peace,
for righteousness and justice on earth.

God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for this community . . .

Let our words be a blessing, not a curse; put out the fires of destructive gossip
and dispel the poison of venomous rhetoric.

God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for loved ones . . .

Hear the cries of those who call on your name; deliver them from the entanglements of
death so that they may walk again in the land of the living.

God of abundant grace, *hear our prayer.*

Generous God, as you provide for us each day, nourish and strengthen us in faith and
faithfulness, so that we may share your grace in a hungry world;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of life. **Amen.**