

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
July 16, 2017  
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING RESPONSE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 119)

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**Your decrees are my heritage forever;**

They are the joy of my heart.

**I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.**

\* FAVORITE HYMN "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" 464

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy God, in Christ Jesus have mercy upon us. Like Jacob and Esau we struggle for rights. We grapple with others to receive our fair share. We confess our anger when others challenge our assumptions. We confess our dislike for those who deny our claims. Forgive our distrust that you will care for our needs. Thru Christ, help us to strive for equal justice for all and equal access to your grace.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI

FIRST READING Genesis 25:19-34

\* FAVORITE HYMN "Just As I Am, Without One Plea" 370

SECOND READING Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON "The Dirt" Rev. Janell Blair

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Confession of 1967

**We believe that the reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to us, moves us to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. We believe that the new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

\* FAVORITE HYMN "How Firm A Foundation" 361

POSTLUDE

*\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand*

**Welcome:** To all who worship with us this morning. Visitors and members are asked to please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad. Thank you for worshipping with us!

**Announcements:** This Tuesday the Brown Bag Luncheon meets HERE! We will host this ecumenical group and Janell will provide the devotional. Come join in the fellowship and fun!

Next Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Session will meet following worship.

We will continue to plan our October 1<sup>st</sup> 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, and his faithfulness to Christ's Church.

**Birthdays:** No birthdays this week.

**Anniversaries:** No anniversaries this week.

**Flowers:** Larry and Nena Larson purchased flowers this week.

**Refreshments:** Ethel Marsh, provided refreshments for the Congregation today.

**Newsletter:** Deadline to submit articles and information for August newsletter is **July 21, 2017**. If you have an article or announcement please turn it in to Silvia or slip it under the door to her office.

**Pastor: Rev. Janell Blair (361) 920-2492**

**Pianist: Marilyn Pearce**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

9: 30 a.m. Sunday School – Upstairs Parlor      Sunday School - Room 104 Ed. Wing  
10: 1 0 a.m. Fellowship Time – Southeast Vestibule      **Session** – Session meeting – July 23, 2017  
10: 30 a.m. Morning Worship

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