

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

“14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST”

September 3, 2023

Dallas United Methodist Church

Liturgical Color – Green



## TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

*God showed how much he loved us  
by sending his one and only Son into the world  
so that we might have eternal life through him.*

*This is real love—not that we loved God,  
but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.*

(1 John 4:9-10 ... NLT)

\* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

**From all our life's pathways, you have called us to this place, O Lord.  
Be with us as we listen for your word and seek your ways.  
Guide our steps and guard our lives  
that we may serve you more effectively in this broken world. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Life and breath –

**A gift from God.**

A tender heart and a humble mind –

**Possible with God.**

Loving deeply and forgiving often –

**Enabled by God.**

Living in peace and creating justice –

**Sustained by God.**

Seeking God and praising God –

**Our offering to God.**

\* *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

# 185

CHILDREN'S CHAT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love and mercy, be with us this day.  
We have faltered in our service to you.**

We create divisions between various people;  
we judge before we listen;  
we condemn before we make any attempt to understand.  
Our lives are in turmoil and we confess that we have turned away from you.  
It is fear and anger that too often surrounds us  
and our actions become based on those fears and anger.  
Slow us down, Lord.  
Give us hearts overflowing with grace and compassion.  
Help us to mirror Jesus who loved and healed others  
who were rejected by “polite” society.  
Remind us that we are called to be strong voices of hope  
for those who feel alienated and lost;  
we are called to be a home to strangers;  
to quench thirst and to give nourishment;  
to welcome and bring words of hope.  
Forgive us when we have forgotten these things.  
In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

*--- silent prayer for personal confession ---*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

*The Apostles’ Creed, Ecumenical Version*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,

is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

\* *Glory Be to the Father*

# 70

\* *O How I Love Jesus*

# 170

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD’S PRAYER / THREE-FOLD AMEN

*(from the ritual of the former Methodist Church)*

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

GOD’S WORD FOR US:

Romans 12:9-21

*(The Liturgist says: “The Word of God for ALL people” ... AND ... the People respond: “Thanks BE to God”)*

TODAY’S MESSAGE:

**“RESPONDING TO GOD’S GENEROSITY”**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

# 15 – # 16

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

...

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

\* OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD ...

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ... # 94*

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God,  
Lord of all mercy and compassion,  
bless these gifts and all of us gathered here.  
Help us to use these gifts for ministries of hope through your church  
and into our communities, our nation and our world. Amen.**

\* *The Summons*

# 2130

\* BENEDICTION

\* *Shalom to You*

# 666 (twice)

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*Thirty-five-year-old George Jaques Danton, a hero of the French Revolution,  
turned to the executioner just before he was pushed under the guillotine, and said:  
"Show my head to the people. It is worth looking at. Show them my head."*

*Thirty-three-year-old Jesus turned to his disciples just before his death and said:  
"Show them my heart" ...  
"This is my body, broken ... This is my blood, shed ... Show them my heart."*