

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026 – 8:30 AM

PRELUDE MUSIC, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GREETING** P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

***HYMN #733 “GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”** PD

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

A: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Time of silence for reflection

A: Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word

READING – GENESIS 15:1-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram

said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

And he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

SERMON BY JACK BECK

***SERMON HYMN #769 V.V. 1 & 4 “IF YOU BUT TRUST IN GOD”**
OL#61631

*APOSTLES CREED

A: *‘Let us celebrate our common faith, using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.’*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He 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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

OFFERING & REFLECTION MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Our Lord Jesus is the host of this communion meal. We welcome all baptized Christians to join us.

- All those who believe Jesus is Lord are welcome.
- Children who haven't received communion instruction are more than welcome to come forward for a blessing.
- If you need non-alcoholic or Gluten Free just ask your server.
- And the ushers will direct you forward.

HYMN #471 "LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER" PD

HYMN 484 "YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART" OL#85925

COMMUNION BLESSING

Sending

BENEDICTION

***HYMN #796 "HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION" PD**

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

Offerings can be placed in the basket in the narthex on your way out.

You can also Give Online, see our website at
www.shepherd-hills.com/give

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Our Mission:

"We are called to Love God, Grow in the Holy Spirit, and Serve Others."

Please view the church website at www.shepherd-hills.com to learn more about our beliefs and values.