

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## THE APPROACH TO GOD

### CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE “O Jesus, Thou Art Standing” arr. Sharon E. Rogers

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

VOTUM, SENTENCES AND SALUTATION Sandy Dibble, liturgist  
Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**Amen.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord,

**from this day forth and forevermore!**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**the name of the Lord is to be praised!**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

\* HYMN #489 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” UNSER HERRSCHER

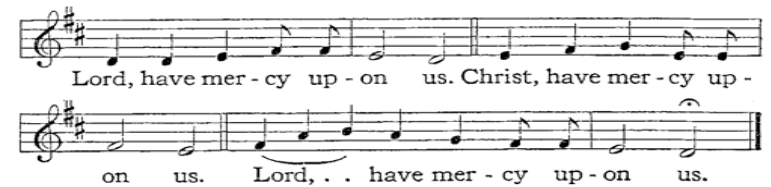
### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Glorious and merciful God, we are very much aware that sin is not just something we do, but a condition we are in. Help us to understand that we can never tip the scales of your perfect justice in our favor, for no matter how good we may be our goodness is always spoiled by our own selfishness. We confess, O Lord, that we need to be washed anew by your Spirit’s forgiveness and restorative power. Remain close to us now and always, for we are weak of mind, body, and spirit. In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, we pray these things. Amen.**

### SILENT REFLECTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

KYRIE ELEISON, THREEFOLD



## WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND SUMMARY OF THE LAW

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 114 (see insert)

\* GLORIA PATRI #579 Creatorex

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Rev. Walther

ANTHEM “With a Voice of Singing” Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord will deliver all his people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of his name. Make his praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 50:15-21 (OT: p. 60)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson Matthew 18:21-35 (NT: p. 24)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

\* HYMN #298 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” IN BABILONE

SERMON “The Fuel that Moves Us Forward” Rev. Walther



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALE DAZE - Church members and friends will have exclusive rights to purchase *reduced price goodies* at our annual “2008 Going Out of Business Sale” which will take place immediately following worship and at the start of the Fellowship Hour this morning.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to look for bargains and make extraordinary purchases. Proceeds will benefit the lounge redecorating project.

CONSISTORY MEMBERS, please remember to take your packets before leaving United this morning.

IN YOUR PRAYERS, please remember the following members who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis:

Robin Brewer	Donna Cameron	Libby Dow
Bertha Everett	Dot Grabach	Gail King
Donna Hall	Jim Hall	Caroline Kelly
Lincoln Shimomura	Thelma Stukes	Robert Thompson

Please let Sharon Thompson know when you know of someone whom we can remember in prayer and mention in the “In Your Prayers” reminders for the week.

## DATES TO NOTE for this week:

Today:	11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 12:30 p.m. <b>Ignite!</b>
Monday:	5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Scampi's Dinner Fund Raiser
Tuesday:	7:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Thursday:	7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday:	9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 12:30 a.m. <b>Ignite!</b>

## WE NEED THE CHURCH

*I've never understood those who say they don't need the church. Mine is a profound need to worship and live in solidarity with the community of the faithful.*

*Of course, I can pray for myself and make decisions by myself, but it has to be in the context of the covenant that you and I have with God.*

*To love mercy in the midst of the unmerciful, to do justice in the laws of injustice, to be humbly aware of God's grace takes constant communion with God and the community.*

-Ann Weems, 'Family Faith Stories'