



*Sunday Worship*  
*August 27, 2023*  
*Be transformed by the*  
*renewing of your mind.*

\* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able  
*italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation*

***HYMN SING***

***\*CALL TO WORSHIP***

We give thanks to God with our whole heart.

**We give thanks for God's steadfast love and faithfulness!**

Though high above all things, God sees the lowly

**Even when we are in deep trouble, God makes us live again. The love of God lasts forever!**

*Together, let us worship God.*

***\*OPENING PRAYER***

**Mighty God, we do not yet see the glory you plan for all humankind, but in faith we do see Jesus. We thank you for the humility and holiness in which he lived and died. We praise you that he freed us from our sin, that he comforts and strengthens us through our struggles, and that he gives us courage to follow him. For this, we now join with all creation and shout for joy: Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord! Amen.**

***\*HYMN # 620 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress.

Praise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Fatherlike he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows.

In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!

4 Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.

Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

***CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION***

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS***

**Merciful God, we confess that we have conformed our lives to the ways of the world and not the ways of your kingdom. We think of ourselves too highly and regard others as lowly. We exalt possessions and power, when you alone are to be exalted. We let conflicts prevail over grace and divisions over harmony.**

**Have mercy upon us, we pray. Forgive and transform us, that we may be holy and acceptable to you, discerning and doing your will. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING***

The steadfast love of the Lord never ends. When we call out to God, God answers.

**God saves us with a strong and outstretched hand. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and helped to live in grace. Amen.**

***\*GLORIA PATRI***

**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.**

***OLD TESTAMENT LESSON    Isaiah 51:1-6***

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

***TIME WITH THE CHILDREN***

***\*HYMN #761 Called as Partners in Christ's Service***

1. Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace, we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth, let us follow, never faltering, fresh new lines of faith to trace.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

***NEW TESTAMENT LESSON    Romans 12:1-8***

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

***SERMON    What Comes First, Humility or Transformation?***

***CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP  
OFFERTORY***

***\*DOXOLOGY***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION***

**Gracious God, we thank you for the measure of faith you have given to each of us. Increase in us generosity, compassion, and prophetic courage so we may continue to be your body in and for the world. With thanksgiving, we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.**

***SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS***

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***\*HYMN # 697 Take My Life and Let It Be vs. 1,5, 6***

1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise, let them flow in endless praise.

5. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

***\*BENEDICTION***

***POSTLUDE***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS August 27, 2023

**This week's carillon is in memory of Clarence Knipe, Sr. Clarence is the brother of member Edith Payton.**

**Welcome Rev. Debbie Heffernan** as the supply preacher for each Sunday this month. Debbie is a former intern at Forest Grove and has served three different congregations since her ordination. Now that she is retired, she is able to be with us while Su is away.

**Pastor Su is on vacation until September 3:** While she is away, the elders and deacons will be available for Pastoral emergencies. Please contact Maggie Rash (215-534-4451) or Gerry Stemplewicz (215-667-7102) if you have a need.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS:** The first Sunday is September 10. Children are invited to attend worship and will then be dismissed to class after the Time with the Children. Our dedicated teachers will pack each week with Bible stories, music, games and lots and lots of education fun!!

**YOUTH GROUP BEGINS:** Sunday, September 10, at 6:30pm and ends at 8:00pm. Hey 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, Pastor Su and Missi Dell'Orefice are thinking up some exciting events for the fall and want your input so come on out and share your ideas.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Our yearly blood drive will be **Saturday Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 8AM to 1PM**. If you would like to view the schedule and reserve a time, please feel welcome to use the link below. Or, you're welcome to email me with your preferred 60 minute window of time, and I'll find a time that is convenient for you. The Red Cross is telling us appts are required, and that 'walk-ins' are no longer permitted. The link to the Red Cross schedule is <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>. Then please use the vertical bar to scroll down to 'September 9', then select 'Forest Grove Church' to view the open appts, and reserve a time. The website also has information on donor eligibility related to medical conditions, medications, and age, ht & wt guidelines for donors. Thanks for considering it. With Appreciation, Dana

**Food Pantry Needs:** This week we are asking for the following items: **Condiments** such as: Salt, pepper, Ketchup, mustard, relish, cooking oil, syrup. Bring your item(s) to the church. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

<b>Calendar:</b>	August 27	10:00 am	Worship Service followed by Fellowship
	August 28	7:00 pm	Boys Scouts Troup meeting
	August 30	12:00pm	Bring your Brown bag lunch for Fellowship.
	September 4		HOLIDAY – Offices closed

**Elder of the month:** Sharon Ruth  
**Usher:** Craig Jencks

**Deacon of the month:** Miss Dell'Orefice  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Marilyn Cook

### *In our thoughts and prayers:*

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Alvin Cornell, Pat Gessner  
Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Mary Lou Humlhanz, David Posnett, Pat Pizza



**Church Staff**  
**Susan Fall, Pastor**  
**Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music**  
**Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator,**  
**Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager**



SAVE THE DATE:  
September 17 - Bell Choir Rehearsal begins  
October 7 - Our Annual Chicken Barbeque