

# The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

October 29, 2023

9:00 AM

## CONNECTING WITH CHRIST

Prelude

Welcome, Celebration and Concerns

Call to Worship

Invocation and Lord's Prayer

†Hymn 562

*Be Thou My Vision*

## CLEANSING OUR HEARTS

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*O God, the Father of Lights with whom there is no shadow of turning, we urge You to look with mercy upon us Your wayward children. Help us to direct our eyes of faith unto You so that we may receive Your forgiveness in our hearts and souls. Let us walk in confidence and peace of Your heavenly illumination through Your holy Word and Spirit. As we come into worship give us pardon for our sins and renew our vision of truth as it is found in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Let this vision of our Savior drive the darkness of evil from our hearts so that we may give Your heartfelt songs of praise. Remind us that though our sins are as deep as red stains, Your forgiveness will wash us and make us white as snow. Help us to live in the newness of forgiveness and grace. This we ask through Your Son, Jesus. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Choral

Hymn 526

*“My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus Name. On Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.”*

## RESPONDING TO GRACE

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

†Doxology

Hymn 815

†Fourth Stanza of America

*Pew Hymnal, page 807*

*Our Fathers' God to Thee, Author of liberty, to Thee we sing; Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King. Amen.*

†Affirmation of Faith

*THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM Adapted from 4.031-4.032*

*Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One because he is ordained by God the Father and anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, fully revealing to us the secret purpose and will of God concerning our redemption. Jesus Christ is to be our only High Priest, having redeemed us by the one sacrifice of his body and ever interceding for us with the Father. He is also our eternal King, governing us by his Word and Spirit, and defending and sustaining us in the redemption he has won for us. We claim the heritage of being Christians when through faith we share in Christ and thus in his anointing, so that we may confess his name, offer ourselves a living sacrifice of gratitude to him, and fight against sin and the devil with a free and good conscience throughout this life and hereafter rule with him in eternity over all creatures. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer

†Hymn 553

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*

## RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

*1 Thessalonians 5:11-24*

*Page 1841*

Message

*Moving the Chains toward Gratitude:  
Tackling Fear, Part 2*

*Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lovelady*

## CONNECTING WITH LIFE

†Hymn 642

*Abide with Me*

†Benediction

†Postlude

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*†Worshippers are asked to stand, if able*