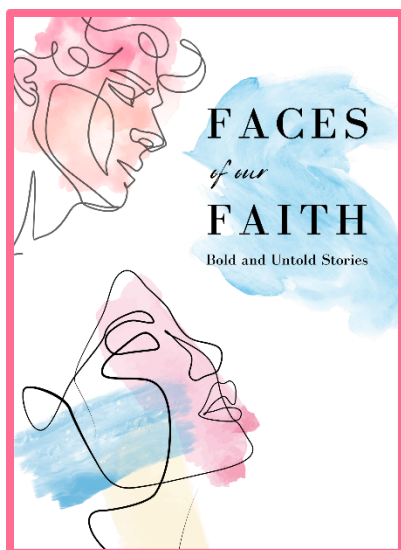




Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025 9:00 a.m.

We kindly ask that you silence your cellphones and electronic devices as we create a sacred space for contemplation and prayer.

† – Please rise in body or in spirit.

Chiming the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

God Gathers the Scattered

Prelude “Prière a Notre Dame” from *Suite Gothique* L. Boellmann

† Call to Worship Lois Haines

One: Like Lydia by the riverside, we gather where God meets us in unexpected places.

Many: **Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your word with eagerness.**

One: As Lydia welcomed Paul and his companions into her home, may we extend hospitality to all who seek you.

Many: **Make us vessels of your grace, sharing our blessings with generous hearts.**

† Hymn *To God Be the Glory* UMH 98

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

† Opening Prayer

Unison

Gracious God,
through a vision you sent forth Paul to preach the gospel
and called the women to the place of prayer on the Sabbath.
Grant that we may be like Paul
and be found like Lydia,
our hearts responsive to your word
and open to go where you lead us. Amen.

God Speaks the Word to Us

Children's Moment

Dr. Parkes

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 16: 11-15, 40

One: Word of God, Word of Life!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Musical Offering

Come, Thou Fount

arr. Craig Courtney

Lisa & Emma Rittenhouse, Vocalists

Sermon

Faces of Our Faith: Lydia

Dr. Parkes

God Inspires Us to Respond

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Quiet Saints

Thank you, Father
for the selfless giving of time.

For those often quiet saints
 who do not argue their theology loudly
 engage in lengthy debates
 over complex doctrinal issues
 or make their presence felt
 within the hallowed space
 of Church Council meetings
 but simply get on with doing
 the business
 visiting the sick, the aged
 and the lonely
 a shoulder to cry on
 a listening ear
 and the reassurance of one who cares.
 Thank you, Father
 for all those quiet saints
 who live their faith through their lives
 in a world that often forgets
 that you were never too busy to listen
 never too busy to minister to needs
 never too engrossed in work
 to bring hope and wholeness into lives.
 Thank you, Father,
 for your quiet saints.

Hymn

Stand by Me

UMH 512

1. When the storms of life are raging,
 stand by me (stand by me);
 when the storms of life are raging,
 stand by me (stand by me).
 When the world is tossing me
 like a ship upon the sea,
 thou who rulest wind and water,
 Stand by me (stand by me).

2. In the midst of tribulation,
 stand by me (stand by me);
 in the midst of tribulation,
 stand by me (stand by me).
 When the host of hell assail,
 and my strength begins to fail,
 thou who never lost a battle,
 stand by me (stand by me).

3. In the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me (stand by me).
When I do the best I can,
and my friends misunderstand,
thou who knowest all about me,
stand by me (stand by me).

4. In the midst of persecution,
stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of persecution,
stand by me (stand by me).
When my foes in battle array
undertake to stop my way,
thou who savèd Paul and Silas,
stand by me (stand by me).

5. When I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me (stand by me);
when I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me (stand by me).
When my life becomes a burden,
and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O thou Lily of the Valley,
stand by me (stand by me).

† The Peace

One: The Peace of the Lord Jesus be always with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

The Offering

Offertory "Dialogue" from *Mass for the Convents* by F. Couperin

† Doxology UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† Prayer of Gratitude

God Sends Us to the World

† Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

UMH 715

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice. | Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice. |
| 2. Jesus the Savior reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above. | 3. His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of earth and hell
are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice. |
| 4. Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear th'archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice! | |

† Dismissal with Blessing

One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Sortie

by L. Lefebure-Wely

It is the habit of some in our worship to remain seated through the postlude to savor a few last moments of prayer before returning to the world. Others must leave to gather their children or help with other activities. We only ask that you do so quietly until you have arrived at the Narthex. We are grateful you chose to be part of our family today!