

14th Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2020

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude *The Church's One Foundation* *Hughes*
 Love is the Only Power *Smith*

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

! Call to Worship *Dennis Lesher*

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house
and to seek God in his holy temple.

We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and
always.**

Let us worship the Triune God.

! Invocation *Dennis Lesher*

Everlasting God,
in whom we live and move and have our being:
You have made us for yourself,
so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,
no weakness keep us from doing it;
that in your light we may see light clearly,
and in your service find perfect freedom
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise 42

Seek Ye First

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you— Allelu, alleluia!*

*Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you— Allelu, alleluia!*

Confessing ***God invites us to be honest with Him***

Prayer of Confession

(Responsively)

Dennis Leshar

Father, we are sorry for the many times we have left you
and chosen to satisfy our own selfish desires.

For the times we have hurt the members of our families
by refusing to do our share of the family tasks.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we were unkind and impatient with those who needed our time and
concern.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we were too weak to stand up for what was right
and allowed others to suffer because of our cowardice.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we refused to forgive others.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Dennis Leshar

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
may not perish but may have eternal life.
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world
to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

† 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.
A-men, A-men.*

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Introductions

Dennis Leshner

*Stephanie Miller, Amy Styer - Deacon,
Roy Adler, Dennis Leshner, Dan Obenschain - Elders
Steve Chambers, John Keeler, Bill Mecaughey - Trustees*

(Please remain in your pew & stand when your name is read)

Questions to Amy Styer on being ordained as a Deacon.

Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your own Personal Lord and Savior? Do you?

Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice? Do you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the catechisms of this church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures? Do you?

Do you promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with the system of doctrine as taught in the scriptures and as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church you will on your own initiative make known to your Church Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow? Do you?

Do you affirm and adopt the Essentials of our Faith without exception? Do you?

Do you promise to subscribe to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?

Do you promise to be subject to your fellow officers in the Lord? Do you?

Installation Questions to Steve Chambers, John Keeler, Bill Mecaughey on being installed as Trustees; to Roy Adler, Dennis Leshner, and Dan Obenschain on being installed as Ruling Elders; and to Amy Styer and Stephanie Miller on being installed as Deacons.

To Steve, John, Bill, Roy, Dennis, Dan, Amy and Stephanie, Do you now reaffirm the vows you took upon your Ordination and do you recommit yourself to them in discharge of your obligation? Do you?

*To all officers:
Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to accept this office from love of God and sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son? Have you?*

Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in promoting the truths of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise to you on that account? Do you?

Will you seek to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as an officer, whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before this congregation of which God will make you an officer? Will you?

Are you now willing to take responsibility in the life of this Congregation respectively as a Trustee, Elder, or Deacon and will you seek to discharge your duties, relying upon the grace of God, in such a way that the entire Church of Jesus Christ will be blessed? Will you?

Question to the Congregation

Do you, the members of this congregation, receive these persons as Ruling Elders, Deacon, Trustees, and do you continue your promise to yield them and all your officers all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which the ordination or installation as an officer entitles them, according to the word of God and the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?

Prayer of Ordination

“Sovereign Lord, we ask You now that You anoint these Your servants for the work that You are calling them to do. Give them the full measure of your Spirit so that they may become fully equipped. Give them the wisdom to lean on You and Your Word for advice. Give them the courage to face the trials that will come their way. May Your presence abide, Your grace sustain and Your love keep them now and forever. Amen

Declaration

I charge you based on the answers given to remain faithful to your call. Remember, God does not take the answers given lightly. May God be your guide and your help.

Right Hand of Fellowship

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Responding to God’s bountiful gifts to us in Christ, we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.

Offering

**Please place your offerings in the plate in the back of the church on your way out.*

Hymn 186*The Old Rugged Cross*

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.*

(Refrain)

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross and exchange it someday for a crown.*

*O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary.
Refrain.*

*In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see; For t'was on that old cross
Jesus suffered and died to pardon and sanctify me.
Refrain.*

*To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.
Refrain.*

‡Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

‡Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,
we thank you for gifts that belong
not to us alone, but to all our sisters and brothers,
since they too are created in your image.
Let their need become our need;
let their hunger become our hunger;
and grant to us also a portion of their pain,
so that in sharing ourselves,
we discover the Christ who walks
with our brothers and sisters. **Amen.**

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Lesson

Galatians 6:1-10

6 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Sermon

*“Choosing to Serve Others”
Rev. Paul Toms*

Responding

We respond to God's Word

Special Music

*Behold the Lamb
Solo—Linda Gyath*

Getty/Townend

Sacrament of Communion

Dennis Lesher

Communion Prayer

Distribution* (Prepackaged Communion elements are in your pew.)

(*Please dispose of your used communion packaging when leaving
Worship . Waste receptacles are located at the top of the stairs)

‡ **Confession of Faith** *(Responsively)*

Dennis Lesher

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
**The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**
Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.”
**The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Prayers of the People

O Christ, our Lord,
in times past many servants of yours
brought their friends and loved ones to your side,
that they might be blessed and healed.
So today we bring to your attention
those who need your loving touch.
Please look on our faith, small as it is, and send your peace.
O Lord, bring your healing and your peace!
We lift up before you
those who suffer from severe physical pain
and those for whom the days are long and the nights seem longer.
O Lord, bring your healing and your peace!
For others, Lord, the pain is not of their body,
but of their mind and emotions.

Some are haunted by past failures;
some feel the searing pain of rejection;
some are shackled with fear and depression;
still others are lonely and alone.

O Lord, bring your healing and your peace!

We also lift before you
those who are crippled in soul and spirit,
who feel that you have abandoned them
or that they are unloved by you.

O Lord, bring your healing and your peace!

We also pray for those who tend the sick,
comfort the dying, care for the poor, and befriend the oppressed.
May their hearts be strong and filled with love and compassion.
When they are weary, infuse the strength of your Spirit.

O Lord, bring your healing and your peace!

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ,
who came to suffer among us
and to care for those who suffer. **Amen.**

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 283

We Are God's People

*We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word:
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart
And hand in hand.*

*We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care,
and live with a zeal that pleases heaven.*

*We are the body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God,
and so shall His work on earth be done.*

*We are a Temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire:*

*Yet joined in one the flame burns on
to give warmth and light, and to inspire.*

†Benediction & Blessing

†Organ Postlude *Postlude on "Hiding Place"* *Birchwood*