

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
July 18, 2021**

**Pastor  
Director of Christian Education  
Director of Music/Organist  
Church Secretary  
Clerk of Session**

**Rev. Rick Brooks  
Rev. (Dr.) Randall McGee  
Mr. Gary O'Neal  
Ms. Kat Hutchings  
Ms. Marilyn Jackson**

## Order of Worship

### Prelude

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”  
(arr. by Penny Rodriguez)

Susie Miller, Pianist  
BROTHER JAMES’ AIR  
by James Bain

*(Silent meditation and prayer)*

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the seeker find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful be comforted. Here may the weary find rest and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(At this time, please silence your cell phone.)

### Welcome and \*Greeting One Another

Pastor

### Call to Worship (Responsive)

Liturgist and Congregation

From far and near, we gather together,  
**called to unity in Christ.**

Build into one body,  
**we are the dwelling place of God.**

May God guide our steps and direct our ways,  
**that we may reveal God’s love in word and deed.**

Praise the Lord!

**The Lord’s name be praised!**

### \* Hymn

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

No. 216

### Prayer of Adoration

Liturgist

### \* Gloria Patri

Congregation

**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.**

### \* Affirmation of Faith – Apostles’ Creed (Unison)

Liturgist and Congregation

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* Invitation to stand

**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Pastor and Congregation

**Eternal God, your steadfast love endures forever. We confess that we act as if we are in control as if you will bless whatever we do. If we think of others at all, it is with an eye toward their usefulness to us. If we consider your creation, it is to ponder what benefits us. We have failed to show your love or to do justice in obedience to you. We have no right to be called your children. Have mercy on us, God of grace. Lord, have mercy. Forgive our sins, we humbly pray. Put the mind of Christ within us, O God, so that our lives take the form of a cross. Use us to break down walls of hostility within the church, among the nations, and around the world. Equip us to do your will, giving you glory, honor, and praise together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.**  
*(In silence confess your personal sins to God.)*

**Kyrie Eleison**

Congregation

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy.  
You are the Christ, giver of mercy.  
You are the Lord, giver of mercy.**

**Declaration of God's Pardon**

Pastor

**Children's Time**

Pastor

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

Pastor and Congregation

**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.**

*To share your joys and concerns, please contact the pastor or the church office.*

**The Offering**

Offertory

*A public offering to God is one of the oldest forms of worship. Although we give in varied ways through the week, our participation in the Sunday Offering is a witness to God and to the world of our love and commitment.*

*If you have not already done so, please drop your offering in the offering plates located at the front and back of the Sanctuary as you exit the building.*

**\* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Doxology No. 606

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

**Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor

**Special Music**

**"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"  
(arr. by Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi)**

**Bill Grayson – soloist  
SHENANDOAH**

## Lessons from Scripture

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

First Reading: Isaiah 53:1-5 (p. 613 Pew Bible)

Liturgist

Response: This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Matthew 18:1-5 (p. 823 Pew Bible)

Pastor

Response: This is the Gospel of Christ!

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Sermon**

“Being Vulnerable”  
9 Marks of Spiritual Health

Rev. Dr. Paul Burns

\* **Hymn**

“The Summons”

No. 726

\* **Charge and Benediction**

Pastor

\* **Postlude**

Pianist

Who I am in \_\_\_\_\_ Exercise

1. Make a big “T” on a piece of paper
2. On the left side write, “Who I am in \_\_\_\_\_.” Fill in the blank with a person, experience, group, cultural factor, that has shaped you for better or worse.
3. On the right side of the T write, “Who I am in Christ.”
4. Then write down words on both sides that describe you in relation to the noun at the top.
5. Look at who you were– the good, the bad, the ugly. Know that God deeply loves that person. God died for that person in Christ. Look with loving eyes upon that person. Forgive that person. Thank that person. Let go of that person.
6. Do the same for the name you placed in the blank above. Love them, forgive them, thank them (if you can come up with something!), and let them go.
7. Then look at who you are becoming as you look at the right side. Welcome this new creation and give thanks to God for giving you the identity you will be known by forever.
8. Whenever your old self shows up, continue to love them, forgive them, thank them, and let them go.

Hearing assistance devices are available. Please check with an usher.

The Flower Arrangement this Morning is Given to the Glory of God  
By Gary and Ann O’Neal in Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary

Assisting in worship today is Allison Curry, liturgist.  
The usher is Dee Huckaba and the greeter is Bruce Huckaba.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 18<sup>th</sup>

Sunday	12:00	Mission/Outreach Com. Mtg.
Monday	6:30	Session Meeting
Thursday	6:00	Zoom Yoga