# **Christ's Reformed Church – United Church of Christ**

~ growing people of faith who live in Jesus, love one another and bear abundant fruit ~



9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 22, 2018



# 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST "GOOD SHEPHERDS, BAD SHEPHERDS, AND HIRED HANDS"

#### ~ GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE ~

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Concertino No. IV" Emily Everett on the Violin

## ~ Preparing for God's Word ~

CALL TO WORSHIP Ephesians 2

Come into the presence of the Most High God, with songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving.

For our Savior frees us from slavery; our Savior heals our grief; our Savior is our peace.

Every Christian – those we love and those we dislike; those from the far left of the political spectrum and those from the far right; the rich *and* the poor; those who live in palaces, those who live in prison cells, and those who live on the streets – *every* Christian is a holy temple of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come; let us worship our Lord!

**INVOCATION** 

\* OPENING HYMN "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" Red 8

TIME ON THE STEPS Lorraine Barkdoll

#### **CONFESSION**

Eternal God, *your* steadfast love endures forever. Yet *our* love is conditional, temporary, and begrudged. We act as if you will bless whatever we do, as if our individual and collective behavior does not have to obey your commandments.

Lord have mercy.

If we think of others at all, it is with an eye toward their usefulness to us. We treat Your glorious creation as plunder, to be used and destroyed for private gain.

# Christ have mercy.

We have failed to show your love or to do justice in obedience to you. Have mercy on us, God of grace. Forgive our sins, we humbly pray. Put the mind of Christ within us, so that our lives take the form of a cross.

# Lord have mercy.

Use us to break down walls of hostility within the church, among the nations, and around the world. Equip us to do *your* will, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**.

Assurance of Pardon

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Hymns of Commitment"

Charlotte Trout

PASTORAL PRAYER

Ephesians 2

After each petition, "We humbly come before you to ask, hear our prayer."

**Silent Petitions** 

The Lord's Prayer

#### ~ HEARING GOD'S WORD ~

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 22:13-14; 23:1-6

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

# Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

\* SCRIPTURE HYMN "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Black 252

GOSPEL LESSON John 10:11-16

SERMON "Good Shepherds, Bad Shepherds, and Hired Hands" Dr. Hodge

# ~ RESPONDING AS GOD'S PEOPLE ~

**OFFERING** 

Invitation

Offertory Music "You Raise Me Up" Emily Everett & Charlotte Trout

\* Doxology

### ~ Going in God's Name ~

\* CLOSING HYMN "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Black 1 & Insert

\* COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Lord of the Dance" Shaker Melody

<sup>\*</sup> Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving