

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 10, 2022

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## PREWORSHIP MUSIC

## GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP/PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*All: Creator God, in praise and adoration our spirits dance before you today. You have created this wondrous universe and all the magnificent things within it. You have blessed us with so much throughout our lives, even to this day of praise and thanksgiving. Let our spirits soar! Let our hearts sing boldly of your wondrous love. We celebrate your love and presence with us, and it is in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, that we offer this prayer. Amen.*

## HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Hymnal, #21

## CONFESSION

*All: In the midst of our "summer" lives, O Lord, so many things have claimed our attention. We worked hard this year to earn a little rest and recreation, to break away from the stresses of our everyday living. But in the midst of all this change, we have too often pushed our worship of you aside. We have focused so much on our needs for physical change and peace that we have neglected our spiritual hungers and thirst. Forgive us when we are tempted to stray from our worship of you and focus entirely on ourselves and our own needs. As we celebrate this day, help us to remember all the wondrous things you continue to do for us. Let us look at the world as a place of delight. And when we encounter situations in which sorrow and hurt abound, help us to be ready to bring hope and peace. Be with us in these warm days of summer; prepare us for ministry and mission, in your holy name. Amen.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God is slow to anger and rich in mercy. God's love abounds!

*All: Hallelujah! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.*

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

## HYMN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

On Video Screen

**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Job 31:35-37 and 38:1-11**

**EPISTLE READING – Hebrews 1:1-4**

**GOSPEL READING – Matthew 7:24-29**

## SERMON

*The Creator's Wisdom*

Rev. Laura C. Baker

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Pastor: Lord of the dance of life, you have breathed into us your creative, joyful Spirit. You have lifted us from the dust into the swirling joy of your presence. We are so grateful for all that you have done for us. Each day reminds us in many ways of your mercy and your love. Yet there are times in our lives when we have felt lost and alone. We have been hurt and frightened and wondered where you were. Remind us again of your loving presence. Place your hands of healing on our lives. Comfort us when we become afraid, lost, lonely, and fearful. Prepare us to serve you faithfully all our days. As we have lifted the name of dear ones to you who are in need of your healing love, cause us to reflect on our needs for your love and our response in dedicated service to you. Be with us now, in this time and place, and in all the places and times of our lives. For it is in Jesus' name, we pray and continue to do so as he taught us, saying:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*All: 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.*

**SPECIAL MUSIC****OFFERTORY INVITATION**

Liturgist: The God of heaven and earth, the Lord of all creation, holds each of us in tender love and care. God is gracious and good, and no one is insignificant in God's eyes. So, we respond to everything God is doing in the life of the world by offering a portion of what we have generously received from a loving God. In the ministry of Starview United Church of Christ, we reach out to all of God's children in tender love and care. Let us offer our gifts to God in gratitude with prayer.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*All: Creator of the universe, architect of our faith, use these humble offerings to construct your plan of peace, hope, and love so that others may know the abundance of life and the depth of your abiding love. Amen.*

**HYMN***Lord of the Dance***On the Video Screen****BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Children of God, celebrate the life you have been given.

*All: I will live my life with all my might, as a dance of praise to God's glory.  
Hallelujah!  
Amen.*

**POSTLUDE**