

us. 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

Mr. Cody Eckenrode, piano

(An Offering Collection Box is located on the table in the back of sanctuary, by the exit door)

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: Let us be faithful stewards of our time, talent, and money, so that our treasure is in heaven and our giving pleases God. Let us present what we give with a song and prayer of dedication, as printed in our bulletins.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* **Hymnal, #258**

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Freely, O God, we have received from you. Now freely we give. We ask your blessing upon the offerings of money, and all the efforts of our hearts and hands, and all the intentions of our minds and our wills – so that you work may be done and your name glorified – both in our lives and in the world around us. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN

His Eye is on the Sparrow **Bulletin Insert**

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Preacher: May the love of God enfold us.
May the wisdom of the Son enlighten us.
May the fire of the Spirit kindle us.
In receiving these gifts of God,
may the Lord’s will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

June 25, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (Joys/Concerns later in service) **Marta Dennis**

PRELUDE **Mr. Cody Eckenrode**

(Please stand in spirit and/or body)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 86)

Liturgist: Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer, for we are poor and needy.
Preserve our life, for we are devoted to you; save those who trust you.

*All people: You are our God; be gracious to us, O Lord.
We cry for you all day long.*

Liturgist: We lift up our souls, O Lord; make them glad.
You are good and forgiving, abounding in love to all who call on you.

*All people: Give ear, O Lord, to our prayers; listen to our cries of supplication.
In the day of trouble, we call to you, knowing that you will answer.*

Liturgist: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord.
All the nations you have made will glorify your name.

*All people: You are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God!
Give strength to your servants and be gracious.
Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer.*

HYMN *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____

Lord, send your Spir-it in this place; _____

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____ send us

love, send us power, send us grace. _____

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Preacher: We are assured that the Lord hears us praying and is merciful. Therefore, let us confess our sins. God of grace, in you there are no shadow, no imperfections, and no regrets. We wish we could say the same about ourselves, but it isn't so.

All people: We confess that in our secret lives there are ugly things which need dragging into the light of your beauty. We confess that in our more open selves, there are some faults that we have come to treat as bad habits rather than to confront them truthfully – as sin. We confess that in our hearts, there are unresolved regrets for hurts inflicted or opportunities wasted. Yet, our regrets readily turn to self-pity rather than repentance.

Preacher: So, we come to you in simple trust, as we have done so many times before.

All people: We seek the same stream of mercy in which we have often bathed and that same spring of love from which we have quenched our thirst, and that same bread of life from which we regain our strength.

*All SING: Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying –
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Preacher: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear the good news: God is merciful and can be trusted to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all corruption. Do not carry old guilt one moment longer! Let it slip from your shoulders and fall away. Move into the future with a mind to sin no more!

All people: Thanks be to God for the opportunity to begin anew!

PRAISE HYMN

Gloria Patri

Hymnal, #493

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Preacher: Since we have peace with God through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Spirit, let us stand and share peace with one another.

(The congregation may be seated, as the children & youth come forward)

JESUS SAID, “LET THE CHILDREN COME”

HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymnal, #287

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Judges 16:18-31

Marta Dennis

EPISTLE READING – Romans 6:1-11

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 10:24-39

SERMON

Ms. Rachael Wertz

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Rachael Wertz

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preacher: Gracious God, who loves all and forgets none, we lift to you our prayers – our joys and concerns – for all your children, especially those whom we love, watch over, and care for.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all held captive and the imprisoned, and all who suffer oppression that you will manifest your mercy toward them and make all hearts as merciful as your own.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all who bear the cross of suffering, the sick in body or mind.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all those who are troubled by the sin or suffering of those they love.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all who are absorbed in their own grief, that they may be raised to share the sorrows of others and know the saving grace of the cross.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all perplexed by the deeper questions of life and overshadowed with doubt, that your light may guide them.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all who are tried by temptations or weakness, that your mercy may be their strength.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all who are lonely and sad in the midst of others' joy, that they may know you as their friend and comforter.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For the infirmed and aged and for all who are dying, that they may find their hope in you and the promise of eternal life.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: For all forgotten by us but are dear to you.

All people: Hear us, O God.

Preacher: O compassionate God, hear our prayer, answer them according to your will, and make us channels of your infinite grace. We pray through Christ Jesus, who taught us to also pray, saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using “sins”)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against