

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

August 28, 2005

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

## THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit                    *“Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”*

The Call To Worship

We are standing here on holy ground.

**O give thanks to God and call upon God’s name.**

God calls us and promises to be with us in all of life.

**Sing to God and praise God’s holy name.**

Let our hearts rejoice in the wonderful works God has done.

The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Hymn 488                    *“The God of Abraham Praise”*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**God of merciful kindness, we confess to you our failures. You have called us to be your people and like Moses, we find excuses. You promise to be with us but we turn from you and worship false gods. Like Peter, we are stumbling blocks rather than proclaimers of the good news of your love for us. We admit our failure to**

**Hold fast to what is good;**

**To love one another with mutual affection;**

**To be patient in suffering;**

**To contribute to the needs of others;**

**And to be hospitable to all your children**

. . . (time for silent confession). . .

\*The Prayer Response    *“Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior, Thee”*

\*The Assurance of Pardon

The Lord’s love is genuine.

**God hates what is evil.**

In Jesus Christ, God loves us with a love greater than our sin.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

\*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

\*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.

Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

## TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Exodus 3:1-15* p. 47 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 105:1-6,23-26,45c* p. 523 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Steal Away"  
Larry Casey, Baritone Harry Burleigh, arr.

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Romans 12:9-21* p. 986 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

The *Sacrament of Baptism* (8:30 a.m.)

\*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Baptism

The Welcome

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church  
to share with us in His ministry for we are all one in Christ.**

\*The Hymn 494 "Out of Deep, Unordered Water"

The Reception of New Members (10:00 a.m.)

Questions of Membership

\*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal

\*The Hymn 438 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 16:21-28* p. 850 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Extreme"  
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

\*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

**O God, we return those gifts you bestow abundantly upon us. Take them and blend them into a composite of commitment. Empower our hands to reach out to others. Enlighten our minds to perceive clearly your will. May the money we offer support the church's endeavors, as in Christ's name we seek faithfully to respond to your will. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

\*The Hymn 421 "The Church of Christ in Every Age"

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude