



**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
September 15, 2024 10:30 a.m.

### **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Tell Out, My Soul"

J. Wayne Kerr

*(\*) Indicates that all are invited to stand*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

One: We follow Christ,

**All: Who says take up your cross.**

One: We follow Christ,

**All: Who bids us come and offer our lives.**

One: We follow Christ,

**All: Who summons us to new life.**

One: Come, let us worship our Creator.

\*GATHERING HYMN “Lift High the Cross” #198 *New Century Hymnal*  
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;  
let all adore and praise that sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
the lamb victorious, Christ the child of God. *Refrain***

**Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. *Refrain***

**O Christ, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
your death has brought us life eternally. *Refrain***

**Set up your throne, that earth’s despair may cease,  
beneath the shadow of its healing peace. *Refrain***

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory. *Refrain***

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (2)

You have called us, O God, but often we refuse to listen;

**You have stretched out your hand but sometimes we do not take it.**

We have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to our own ends.

**Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the promise of your gospel.**

*(silent confession)*

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ, the living Gospel, we are forgiven and made new.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Lift High the Cross” *refrain*

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;**

**let all adore and praise that sacred name.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM     "The Prayer of Saint Francis"     Bob Moore

**LISTENING**

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

# PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8:27-35

Pew Bible p.820

A Word of God that is still speaking,

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" #344

*Worship and Rejoice Hymnal*

1. I have de-cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-  
2. The world be-hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-  
3. Though none go with me, I still will fol-low, though none go  
4. Will you de-cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-

3  
cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-cid-ed to fol-low  
hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-hind me, the cross be-  
with me, I still will fol-low, though none go with me, I still will  
cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-cide now to fol-low

6  
Je - sus— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
fore me— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
fol - low— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
Je - sus?— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.

## RESPONDING

*We respond to God's Word through our prayers and our gifts.*

### NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

OFFERTORY                      Meditation on the tune "Bevan"    Healey Willan  
*(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)*

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE #778 *New Century Hymnal*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*COMMISSIONING HYMN "I Danced in the Morning" #257 *Glory to God Hymnal*

*Unison* G Em Bm Em Am

1. I danced in the morn - ing when the world was be - gun, and I danced in the moon and the  
 2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they would not dance and they  
 3. I danced on the sab - bath when I cured the lame, the ho - ly peo - ple  
 4. I danced on a Fri - day and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the  
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that - 'll

stars and the sun, and I came down from heav - en and I  
 would not fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for  
 said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they hung  
 dev - il on your back; they bur - ied my bod - y and  
 nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll

*Refrain* Bm Em Am D7 C G G Bm

danced on the earth, At Beth - le - hem I had my birth.  
 James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.  
 me high; and they left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -  
 they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.  
 live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Em G Am D G C

- ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher -

G D7 G C D7 G C G

- ev - er you may be, And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

**\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Voluntary in G"

Henry Heron

**SENDING**

*With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.*

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Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from [www.re-worship.blogspot.com](http://www.re-worship.blogspot.com)
2. Adapted from Feasting on the Word, 2015.

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***Worship Leaders September 15, 2024***

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: Sue Rainer

Ushers: One Body Ministry Team

YouTube: Andy Karcher

Tech team: Jim Richmann, Ron Geisel,

Kristine Wentzien, Kathleen Mees

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