

July 21, 2024

Morning Worship  
*9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*  
*Slackwood Presbyterian Church*

10:30 a.m.

**Embracing God. Extending Welcome. Celebrating All.**

### GATHER TO WORSHIP

*As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.*

Bell of Invitation

Welcome & Announcements

### OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship (based on Matthew 11:28-30)

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

**People: Lord, we come to worship you, seeking sabbath rest.**

Leader: Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

**People: Lord, we come to worship you, to listen for your word and to seek rest for our souls.**

Leader: Jesus said, "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

**People: Lord, we come to worship you, that we might serve you faithfully.**

Leader: Give thanks to God; bless God's name!

**People: For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.**

\*Hymn #402 "How Lovely, Lord" MERLE'S TUNE

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

**We are busy and preoccupied with so many things. We neglect to be still and know that you are God. Even our**

**sabbath time can be filled with "busy-ness." Forgive us, Lord, for not accepting your gift and guidance of rest and restoration. Help us to follow Jesus in the way he models for us, mindful of our inner spirit and responding with compassion to the needs of our neighbors. (*moment for silent prayer*). Amen.**

\*Words of Assurance

\*Gloria Patri (#581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*(Following the time of confession, young people ages 3 to 10 may leave for a time of lesson and activity.)*

### HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading -- Psalm 46

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"Come to Me"

Dan Schutte

Second Reading – Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Finding Balance"

The Rev. David Bowman

\*Affirmation of Faith (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking**

**the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

\*Hymn#169      “Dear Lord, Creator Good and Kind”      REST

Dear Lord, Creator good and kind,  
Forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb,  
let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake,  
wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm!

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

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..**

Call for Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology (#606)

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

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #182      “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”      KINGSFOLD

\*Charge and Benediction

## **DEPART TO SERVE**

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

*The Peace Candle in the Chancel is lit to remind us of the gift of Christ's peace and our call to be peacemakers.*

**Christ's Ministers in the World:** All members of the church

**Interim Pastor:** The Rev. David Bowman

**Director of Music:** Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

**Liturgist:** Eric Johansen

**Welcome** to everyone who is worshipping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you will feel very welcome and that you will stay for refreshments and conversation in fellowship hall.

**Pastor Bowman's contact information:**

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

## **Announcements**

The choir rehearses each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

The session of Slackwood Presbyterian Church has called a **congregation meeting** for Sunday, July 21, 2024, following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to act on the recommendation of the session to call the Rev. David Bowman as pastor for a period of three years, with an option to renew at the end of this term.

The **Mission Study Team** will meet following today's service.

**From Corrymeela to the Coastlands: Spiritual Tools for Bridgebuilding in a Divided World** - Peacemaking in Northern Ireland with Pastors Kiran and Alex Wimberly - July 21, 2024, 2-4pm, with light meal reception to follow, at Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church on Scotch Road in Ewing. All invited.

Weather permitting, **next Sunday's service of worship** will be outside on the lawn behind the church parking lot.

This year's popular **summer festival** will be held on the church grounds on Saturday, August 17. This is a wonderful event that requires a lot of work and people helping. Plan now to participate and let Ginger Baker know that you will be helping out.

**Those people remembered in the morning prayer last week are:** Amanda, Becker family, Sam & Keira, Tom Clark, Kim, Ben, Michael, Jonathan, Samantha, Busse family, Moore family, Brooke, the country, warring countries, those impacted by nature and climate change, unemployed and underemployed, unhoused, Marilyn, Milan, Theresa, MaryBeth, Fran, Strober family, those with mental illnesses, Darline, Carrie, Benny, Michael, Jon, Samantha, Jacqui, Jimmy & Kim, Joan & Dennis, Elaine, Debi & Doug, families impacted by recent shooting, Arduini family, Jed & family, Karin, MJ & Dick and Shelley's parents.