

# St. Stephen's

*United Methodist Church*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup> • 10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## **ONLINE SERVICE**

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

#### **WELCOME**

Pastor Rob

#### **PRELUDE**

Softly and Tenderly

Tammy Lydon, piano

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *Adapted from Psalm 105:1-6, 40, 42*

Pastor Forrest

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing praises to God; tell of all God's wonderful works.

One: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek God's presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

All: You asked, and God brought quails, and gave you food from heaven in abundance. For God remembers God's holy promise. Praise the Lord!

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Pastor Forrest

O Lord, we are tapestries richly woven with the threads of your artistry and workmanship. As clay in the potter's hand, as sculpture beneath an artist's chisel, you are in us. We are grateful for this "graceful" process through which your Spirit weaves more and more into your images and into a community of faith. In gratitude, we come to celebrate the riches of your grace by seeking to embody a community of believers deeply rooted in the Truth and in love and service to the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **HYMN**

Christ for the World We Sing

Tammy Lydon, piano

Christ for the world we sing,  
The world to Christ we bring,  
With loving zeal;  
The poor, and them that mourn,  
The faint and overborne,  
Sin sick and sorrow worn,  
Whom Christ doth heal.

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Jiyeon

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Pastor Jiyeon

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY**

Find Me

Sonja Tussing, vocals  
Jerry Kohns, keyboard

I fall down upon the ground  
Press my face against the earth  
Till my heart it rises over my head  
As the wheat it bows down low  
When the autumn wind blows  
I kneel before the one I love  
Find me grateful  
Find me thankful  
Find me on my knees  
Find me dreaming  
Find me singing  
Find me lost in your grace  
Like the dust that you first held  
In a garden where you knelt  
Pull me up against your face again  
Till the breath of your hope  
Fill the depths of my soul  
Till all I know is I've been found by love

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Acts 10:1-20 NRSV

**MESSAGE**The Conversion of Cornelius  
(Discovering a New Family)

Pastor Rob

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Pastor Forrest

I believe in God, the Great Sewer— who weaves us together in community,  
collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit— who hems us in before and behind,  
catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.  
And I believe in Jesus Christ— who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out,  
refusing to disregard anyone as scrap.  
I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being,  
making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.  
I believe the fabric of my life is weak, that I am prone to error  
and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.  
I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,  
she is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.  
And I believe that when life unravels, God is there to stitch my wounds together,  
to hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,  
and to invite me into a new journey. Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Rob

**POSTLUDE**

Softly and Tenderly

Tammy Lydon, piano