

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: *Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him.*-Deuteronomy 30:19, 20

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTSThe Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

PRELUDE: *Give Me Jesus*Richard Billingham (1996)

CALL TO WORSHIP

STEWARDSHIP OF THE SACRED TRUST: *Faithful Service*.....Sarah Jennings

CHRISTIAN HOMES

[Standing]

DIX (581 H)

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise, for the love that crowns our days! Boun - teous source of ev - 'ry joy, let your praise our tongues em - ploy; all to you, our God, we owe, source from which all bless - ings flow.'

Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise, for the love that crowns our days!

Boun - teous source of ev - 'ry joy, let your praise our tongues em - ploy;

all to you, our God, we owe, source from which all bless - ings flow.

Eternal God, Creator of our first home, and our only true Rest, we gather as your family to celebrate our diverse homes, and to seek your blessings on them. God of relationships, you have put within our hearts a longing that only you can satisfy. Yet we need each other to learn of your steadfast love throughout all generations.

Open our hearts, that we may learn from our biblical heritage how to manifest your love.

[Sitting]

God our Creator, in the garden you formed our first parents, and found them good. At first in their innocence, they trusted you and helped each other, but they sinned and fell short of your purposes for them.

Forgive us our sins and give us grace to trust you in the goodness of your creation and your design.

CHRISTIAN HOMES

You called Sarah and Abraham to go out from their homeland and begin a new nation in covenant with you. In their old age, you gave them a child whose name meant laughter. In our homes, may we live with their trust and courage, their humor, their sense of mission.

Increase our faith and give us grace to answer your call.

You strengthened Ruth and Naomi, in the face of grief and bitterness, to remain loyal to each other and to journey to new life.

Encourage us and give us grace to support each other.

When you came to earth, Incarnate God, you had no place to lay your head. God of the stable, bless the homeless, and bring them to a place of shelter.

Keep us aware and give us grace to be family to others.

Rejoicing Savior, you sanctified marriage by your presence at Cana in Galilee. You restored life and health and balance in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Be a holy guest within our homes, filling our ordinary days with newness of life and mutual joy.

Grant us the grace to recognize you as the Christ among us, and to be open to your miracles of change.

Suffering God, from the cross you cared for your loved ones, saying to Mary: Woman, behold your son! and to the disciple: Behold your mother! And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. Bless all families and enable them to form new bonds of love.

Comfort us in our brokenness and give us grace to claim our relationship as your children.

Life-giving Spirit, you came in power to form and guide the church, a family with varied gifts and graces. Grant that church and home may model for each other the nurturing of individuals and the growth of community. We recognize the difficulty of forming family with those who are different from ourselves, and with those who are like ourselves. We confess our failure to love and grow, our impatience for others to change, our blindness to one another's needs. Yet we rejoice that you have given us each other, and we dedicate ourselves to mutual support and love, trusting not in our own strength, but in your strong compassion.

Bless and guide us, Triune God, and enable us to support and love each other.

(This special portion of liturgy, lifting prayers for our oldest members, follows page 120.)

In our homes, our church, and our world, tune our ears to the wisdom of the aged, and keep us attentive to their example of faithful service throughout their long lives.

Wisdom belongs to the aged, and understanding to the old.

We thank you for the years you have added to the beloved lives of our oldest members, extending relationships across many generations.

As their days, so may their strength be.

We thank you for the great gifts they have given to the church, to their families, to their society, to this world. We build on the work they have done, the achievements they have made, the lessons they have taken on themselves and shared with newer generations. Keep us grateful.

We thank you for the good work you began within them, which you have continued to this day, and will bring to its finishing.

T. Hus

All time is yours, O Lord, to give;
may we, in all the years we live,
find that each day of life is new,
a celebration, Lord, with you.

Let not the passing of the years
rob us of joy or cause us fears;
and make our faith, O Lord, hold true,
that we may always rest in you.

You, Lord, have said: "I am he who will sustain you."

**"I have made you and I will carry you; I will
sustain you and I will rescue you."**

God of peace, make all your people, of every age,
complete in everything good,

**so that we may do your will, as you work among
us that which is pleasing in your sight, through
Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever.**

(Standing)

BISHOP GARTH

Who trusts in God, a strong a - bode in heav'n and earth pos - sess - es;
We cov - e - nant in church and home this peace to show each oth - er,

who looks in love to Christ a - bove, no fear the heart op - press - es.
to rep - re - sent your stead - fast love as sis - ter and as broth - er.

In you a - lone, dear Lord, we own sweet hope and con - so - la - tion,
O, may we through each oth - er know your grace which fails us nev - er,

our shield from foes, our balm for woes, our great and sure sal - va - tion.
and find at last our true a - bode with - in your house for - ev - er. A - men.

TEXT: St. 2 Lehoma Goode

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 139

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them – they are more than the sand; I come to the end – I am still with you.

During the singing of the next hymn, children aged 3 and up are welcome to follow Godly Play leaders to continue their worship in CE-106.

MORNING AND EVENING

In the Morning When I Rise 573

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system is the refrain, starting with the word 'Refrain' above the staff. The fourth system contains the final line of the hymn. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1 through 4 at the beginning of the first system.

1 In the morn - ing when I rise, in the morn - ing when I
2 Dark mid - night was my cry, dark mid - night was my
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of
4 O when I come to die, O when I come to

rise, in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
cry, dark mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
day, just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
die, O when I come to die, give me Je - sus.

Refrain
Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus,
you may have all this world, give me Je - sus.

TEXT: Afro-American Spiritual
TUNE: Afro-American Spiritual. Arr. Alma Blackmon (1984). Music ©1984 by Alma Blackmon

7.7.7.4. with Refrain
GIVE ME JESUS

STAGES OF LIFE

Lord of Our Growing Years800

1 Lord of our grow - ing years, with us from in - fan - cy,
2 Lord of our strong - est years, stretch - ing our youth - ful pow'rs,
3 Lord of our mid - dle years, giv - er of stead - fast - ness,
4 Lord of our old - er years, steep though the road may be,
laugh - ter and quick - dried tears, fresh - ness and en - er - gy:
lov - ers and pi - o - neers when all the world seems ours:
cour - age that per - se - veres when there is small suc - cess:
rid us of fool - ish fears, bring us se - ren - i - ty:

Refrain

Your grace sur - rounds us all our days -
for all your gifts we bring our praise.

5 Lord of our closing years,
always your promise stands,
hold us when death appears
safely within your hands:
Refrain

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony. For financial giving online: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Click the DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

OFFERTORY INVITATIONRev. Tobiassen
ANTHEM: *I Shall Not Be Moved*.....Arr. Alice Parker (1970)
HMC Choir

Inspired by Psalm 1
Glory hallelujah, I shall not be moved, anchored in Jehovah, I shall not be moved. Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, I shall not be moved. In his love abiding, I shall not be moved, and in him confiding, I shall not be moved. (Refrain.) Though all hell assail me, I shall not be moved, Jesus will not fail me, I shall not be moved. (Refrain.) Though the tempest rages, I shall not be moved, on the Rock of Ages, I shall not be moved. (Refrain.)

DOXOLOGY
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A GENERAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

(The following may replace the intercessions of the general and seasonal liturgies.)

God’s amazing grace is offered to us today, tomorrow, and forever. Thanks be to God!

God’s grace renews our lives like a flowing stream. Thanks be to God for the wellspring of the joy of living.

In the assurance of God’s unconditional love poured out for us in Jesus Christ, we pray first for ourselves and for our needs:

For forgiveness for wrongs we have done and good deeds we have not done,
For courage to change what needs changing within our lives,
For wisdom to seek God’s guidance,
For healing of our body, mind, spirit, and relationships,
For a thankful awareness of all the blessings of our lives,

(The liturgist may add additional petitions for the worshippers’ needs.)

SILENT PRAYER

Hear our prayers, God of grace.

Meet us in our need and in our honesty.

In the abundance of your mercy, we pray for others:

For members of our families,
For our friends and neighbors,
For those with whom we work, and learn, and play,
For the sick, the frightened, the lonely,
For those who grieve,
For those who are desperate and angry,
For those in prison,
For the hungry, the homeless, the poor,
For those we perceive as our enemies,

(The liturgist may add additional petitions for the needs of others.)

SILENT PRAYER

Hear our prayers, God of compassion.

Send your Spirit upon all for whom we pray.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

In the awareness that we are one with all your human creation, we pray about the issues that confront us all:

For our planet and the environment in which we live,
For the end of war, ethnic conflict, and all violence,
For liberation from racism, bigotry, and injustice,
For freedom from addictions of all kinds,
For the end of abuse of children, women, and men,
For each member of the human family, that all may know the dignity and worth of being a child of God,
For solutions to our common human dilemmas, and for our dedication to be part of those solutions,

(The liturgist may add additional petitions for current issues.)

SILENT PRAYER

Hear our prayers, God of justice, God of love.

May your love and justice be manifest in our lives.

We pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven."

In this act of worship, we come in faith — faith that our problems will not defeat us, faith that our hearts and spirits can be renewed, faith that we are not alone; for you are with us.

Thanks be to you, God our Savior, for meeting us here in this time and place. Thanks be to you for forgiving us, for freeing us, and for strengthening us to be your disciples in this life.

We are filled with the grace, mercy, and peace of God.

We are filled with the love of Jesus Christ. We give thanks that we are blessed, and we commit ourselves to be a blessing to others. Amen.

STAGES OF LIFE

Lord of All Hopefulness 802

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a corresponding lyric line. The lyrics are arranged in four stanzas. The first stanza has four lines of lyrics. The second stanza has four lines of lyrics. The third stanza has four lines of lyrics. The fourth stanza has four lines of lyrics. The music is written in a traditional hymn style with a simple melody and harmonic accompaniment.

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

TEXT: Jan Struther (1901-1953). From *Enlarged Songs of Praise* (1931).
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TUNE: Traditional Irish melody. Setting © by Abingdon Press
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10.11.11.12.
SLANE

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Hymn 832, *The Grace of Our Lord*

*While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.
We invite you to continue your fellowship as you exit during the postlude.*

SERVICE MUSIC

832 **The Grace of Our Lord**

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: 'The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ, and the love of God, and the com - mu - nion of the Ho - ly Spir - it, be with us all, be with us all. A - men.' The score consists of four systems of staves, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The final system ends with a double bar line.

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 13:13
TUNE: Christian Gregor (1763) Irregular (540 E)

POSTLUDE: *Guide Me, Oh, Thou Great Jehovah*T. Cwm
Rhondda J. Bert
Carlson (1999)

- SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING**
- GODLY PLAY, CE-106**, 10:20 a.m. (ages 3 and up), *The Light*
 - BIBLE DISCUSSION**, 11:15 a.m., Club Room and Zoom
 - YOUTH POWER HOUR**, 11:15 a.m., CE Building
 - NO CHILDREN’S POWER HOUR** (meetings resume on September 14)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you. After the service, pick up a beverage in the serving room off the Sanctuary, and enjoy fellowship.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today in loving memory of *Norman and Margaret Dancy, Stedman and Annie Rhew, Thomas Bobo, and Elizabeth Bell* by Beau & Page Dancy and Steve & Katherine Rhew.

PERSONALS

Recovering at Homestead Hills: Juanita Disher

Recovering at Atrium Health: Henry Starbuck

In hospice care at Bermuda Commons: Pat Thomas

We express our sympathy to Susan Miller, whose father-in-law, Paul Miller, died September 1.

CALENDAR

- Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room
Reception for HMC Members Aged 90 & Above, Parlor
11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room & Zoom
Youth Power Hour, CE Building
3:00 p.m. - Salem Bach Festival, Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. - Youth Pizza and Games, CE Building
- Monday - 5:30 p.m. - Circle 5, Parlor
6:30 p.m. - Trustee Meeting, Club Room
- Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. - Men of Church Breakfast, Club Room
12:00 p.m. - Circle 8, Parlor (bring a sandwich)
5:00 p.m. - Children's Ministry Team Meeting, CE-101
6:30 p.m. - Beginner Band, RB-5
7:30 p.m. - Chorale Band, RB-5
- Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant
9:00 a.m. - Stewardship Committee, Club Room
10:00 a.m. - Circle 9, Parlor & Zoom
4:00 p.m. - Personnel Committee, RB-225
4:15 p.m. - Wachovia Historical Society, Parlor
5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
6:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Program, CE Building & Choir Room
- Thursday - 11:00 a.m. - Candle Tea Meeting, Parlor
2:00 p.m. - Flute Choir, RB-5
3:45 p.m. - Wachovia Historical Society Board Meeting, Club Room
5:30 p.m. - Handbell Rehearsal, Bell Room
6:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal, RB-5
- Friday - 9:30 a.m. - Circle 6, Parlor
- Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - Candle Tea Wax Melting, Candle Room
Next Sunday - 8:00 a.m. - MOC Breakfast for the Congregation, Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room
Soup Group Leadership Meeting, Fellowship Hall
11:15 a.m. - Feasting on the Word, CE-101 & Zoom
Bible Discussion, Club Room & Zoom
Moravian Theology, Saal
Children's Power Hour Open House, CE Building
Youth Power Hour, Lot 63

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor*

Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor*

Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music*

Jonathan Williams, *Organist*

Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation*

Philip Montgomery, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*

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(10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)