



July 23, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Order of Worship

(*Please rise in body or in spirit.)

PRELUDE		Christie Spriggs
GREETING		Rev. Todd Lattig
*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)		Kathleen Meredith
The world may label you as this or that.		
God knows us as beloved.		
You may feel empowered or not enough.		
God can still use our gifts.		
Come and worship just as you are for you are God's child.		
Let us praise with bold hope and deep love!		
*OPENING HYMN	"Lift High the Cross"	UMH 159
*OPENING PRAYER (unison)		Kathleen Meredith
Almighty God, we come to you knowing that you are always doing a new and unexpected thing in our lives and in the world. Open our hearts to see others as you see them, to serve others as you would serve them, and to trust you in all our circumstances. Open our minds that we might not underestimate all that you can do when we courageously and boldly serve your purposes. Open our doors to shelter your people with love and acceptance. We pray this in the mighty name of Jesus, our Lord and our Savior. Amen.		
ANTHEM	"Great is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End)	Choir
COMMUNITY PRAYER		Rev. Lattig
CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER		Chancel Choir
SCRIPTURE READING		Kathleen Meredith

Joshua 2:1-14

2 Then Joshua secretly sent out two spies from the Israelite camp at Acacia Grove. He instructed them, "Scout out the land on the other side of the Jordan River, especially around Jericho." So the two men set out and came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there that night.

² But someone told the king of Jericho, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land."³ So the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab: "Bring out the men who have come into your house, for they have come here to spy out the whole land."

⁴ Rahab had hidden the two men, but she replied, “Yes, the men were here earlier, but I didn’t know where they were from. ⁵ They left the town at dusk, as the gates were about to close. I don’t know where they went. If you hurry, you can probably catch up with them.” ⁶ (Actually, she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them beneath bundles of flax she had laid out.) ⁷ So the king’s men went looking for the spies along the road leading to the shallow crossings of the Jordan River. And as soon as the king’s men had left, the gate of Jericho was shut.

⁸ Before the spies went to sleep that night, Rahab went up on the roof to talk with them. ⁹ “I know the Lord has given you this land,” she told them. “We are all afraid of you. Everyone in the land is living in terror. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the Lord made a dry path for you through the Red Sea when you left Egypt. And we know what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings east of the Jordan River, whose people you completely destroyed. ¹¹ No wonder our hearts have melted in fear! No one has the courage to fight after hearing such things. For the Lord your God is the supreme God of the heavens above and the earth below.

¹² “Now swear to me by the Lord that you will be kind to me and my family since I have helped you. Give me some guarantee that ¹³ when Jericho is conquered, you will let me live, along with my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all their families.”

¹⁴ “We offer our own lives as a guarantee for your safety,” the men agreed. “If you don’t betray us, we will keep our promise and be kind to you when the Lord gives us the land.”

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God for this Word.

SERMON

Heroes of the Faith: Rahab

Rev. Lattig

OFFERING

Christie Spriggs

You may leave your offering in the plate in the narthex or scan one of the QR codes on the back of this bulletin to make your offering electronically.

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Kathleen Meredith

Loving God, thank you for the holy courage of this congregation that shows their faith in you. Thank you for the boldness of the givers and the gifts. Use them now to transform the world in your likeness and love. This we pray trusting that you, O God, are continually doing a new thing in our midst. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“My Hope is Built”

UMH 368

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lattig

POSTLUDE

Christie Spriggs



This Week's Schedule

Monday, July 24	10 Chair Yoga (HH) 6 Book Study (Zoom)
Tuesday, July 25	7 Ad Council/Trustees (Zoom)
Wednesday, July 26	6 Potluck Supper (HH)
Thursday, July 27	7 Nominations Committee (Zoom)
Saturday, July 29	9-2 Treasures of Hope
Sunday, July 30	9 Joy Fellowship (HH) 10:30 Sanctuary Service

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Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor
Liturgist
Music Leader
Greeter
Camera Operator
Soundboard Operator

Rev. Todd R. Lattig
Kathleen Meredith
Christie Spriggs
Evelyn Cornwell
Jen Phlegar
Jay Morrison