

12th Sunday After Pentecost

August 31, 2014 ♦ 11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome

*Passing of the Peace

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: God has given us holy hands:

People: Hands to caress a deep ache, a tight knot of stress and tension;

Leader: Hands to hold a hurt child, embrace a lonely friend, care for one who is ill;

People: Hands to create a loving meal or a work of art;

Leader: Hands to till the soil and make a bed;

People: Hands to write to one in need or call another with good news.

Leader: God has given us holy hands,

People: Hands to bring God's touch to earth and to do God's will.

*Opening Hymn #121 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

*Affirmation of Faith #881 The Apostles' Creed

*Gloria Patri #70

*Centering Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we rejoice in this day — a day you have made! Open our hearts that we might worship you with joyful abandon. Open our eyes so that we might revel in the glory of your creation. Open our mouths to sing your praises. Open our ears to hear your Word anew. Renew us and fill our entire beings with your Spirit. Amen.

Children's Message

A Labor Day Prayer

God of all creation, we pray for all those who labor. We give you thanks for the skills and talents that enable us to do our work. We ask that you help us to do our best in whatever vocation you have called us to. We know that there is no job that is menial in your eyes. We lift up those who are currently without work, that they would soon find employment that utilizes their gifts. Help us, also, not to be consumed by our work, or by material desires. We are called to labor, but also to rest. Guide us so that we lead balanced lives with time to work and time for Sabbath. We give our prayers to you, trusting in your grace. **In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Psalter Reading Psalm 122 Hymnal, Page 845

Leader: "The Word of God for the People of God." Response #2

People: "Thanks be to God."

*Hymn of Preparation #2171 (insert) *Make Me a Channel*

Sermon Text Romans 12:9-31 (The Message)

Sermon "Really Real" Rev. Bates

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer #895

Offering & Offertory *I Saw the Light* by Hank Williams
Ken Ritter, voice & guitar

*Doxology #94

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, in thanksgiving for what you have freely and generously given us — we bring these gifts to you. We pray that they would be used to your glory and to help further your kingdom. Help us to always give of our time and resources freely and joyfully. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #2147 (insert) *There Are Some Things*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**For those who are able, please stand*