

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2014 ♦ 11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome

*Passing the Peace

Prelude

Come to the Feast by Hyun Kook
Sanctuary Choir

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather for worship as children of God.

All: We come to remember who and whose we are.

Leader: We gather for worship to be renewed in our faith.

All: We come with hearts open to receive God's love.

Leader: We gather for worship to catch a vision of what might be.

All: We come ready to change what is.

Leader: We gather for worship in gratitude for all we have been given.

All: With thanksgiving, we lift our voices in songs of praise.

*Opening Hymn #98

To God Be the Glory

*Centering Prayer

God of abundance and mercy, we acknowledge your presence among us today. Open our eyes to see the path before us. Deepen our faith to walk with you upon this path. Strengthen our hearts with courage to embark on the journey. Enlarge our hearts with gratitude for your provision along the way. Teach us these things today, O God. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Special Music

Halle, Halle, Halle arr. Hopson
Sanctuary Choir

Dedication of Spiritual Formation Teachers (insert)

Sermon

“I AM the Map”

Rev. Bates

Text: John 14:6; Matthew 14:19

Invitation

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Merciful God, as your children, we long to grow to spiritual maturity, and to be weaned from the elementary teachings of our faith. We desire to live as disciples who can be entrusted with the full measure of the gospel. We confess that we often avoid such growth. We prefer the simplicity of childhood rather than the complex tensions of adulthood. We would

rather remain comfortable than embrace the pain of change. We pretend that complacency and maintaining the status quo is something other than slow death. Forgive us, Lord. Renew within us the desire and commitment to be fully alive to you, to ourselves and to one another as faithful and mature followers of Christ. *(continue to pray in silence)*

Offering & Offertory

*Doxology (#94)

The Great Thanksgiving (UMH pg. 17)

The Lord's Prayer (Kriewald)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Prayer after Receiving

Thank you, merciful God, for the bounty of your creation — for the gifts of the field and vine that nourish our bodies, souls and hearts. Sustained by this meal and the assurance of your grace through our Lord, Jesus Christ, may our lives reflect your presence and may you be our priority. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #634

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please Stand As You Are Able*