Worship for August 6, 2023

Prelude Welcome and Announcements *Call to Worship We come to hear the stories of God's people in ages past. **We come to hear the stories that are also about God's people here and now.** O God, give us ears to hear and eyes to see, **and hearts to receive God's will for our lives.**

*Hymn 191 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Prayer of Confession Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, we were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach us wisdom in our inmost hearts. Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we will be whiter than snow. Let us hear with joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

Hymn Take, O Take Me As I Am

Assurance of Forgiveness

God will create in us a clean heart and put a new and right spirit within us. God will never cast us away from God's presence, and will not take the Holy Spirit from us. God will restore to us the joy of our salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit. **Alleluia! Amen.**

First Scripture Reading Mark 9: 36-37; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 9:47-48

Time With Our Young Disciples

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 19:13-14; Matthew 21:15-16; John 1:12-13; 1 John 3:1 Morning Message not available

*Hymn 289 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine
*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed *p. 35**Hymn 581 Gloria Patri

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings Offertory *Doxology *Prayer of Dedication

O God, we share these gifts in the spirit of those who shared their loaves and fishes on that day long ago. We ask that you take and use these gifts to feed all your creation-to produce seed and grain, wisdom and strength, compassion and peace. May our efforts help to restore wholeness in all the places where malnourishment exists- in body, mind, spirit, and circumstance. Amen.

*Hymn 34 How Great Thou Art

*Blessing Go out from here and live lives worthy of the one calling we all share. In humility, gentleness, and patience, speak what is true and loving and so grow into the unity that is ours in Christ. And may God the creator, reshape your hearts; may Christ Jesus, the bread of life, sustain you always; and may the Holy Spirit unite us all in the bond of peace. *Laughingbird Liturgical Resources*

*Postlude