

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

September 14, 2008

10:50 AM

**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available in the Educational Wing.

**WELCOME/MEDITATION**

All are asked to complete the attendance register in the pew and pass it along to each person. Any prayer concerns may be placed in the offering plates.

**Prelude** *Trumpet Tune* **Telemann**

**\*Call to Worship**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Savior Jesus Christ.

**We thank God as we remember one another and celebrate our partnership in the gospel.**

God has begun a good work among us and calls for our worthy, wholehearted involvement.

**We will stand side by side, firm in one spirit, striving for the faith of the gospel.**

Let your life represent the good news, and enter into fruitful labor on its behalf.

**No work of our hands can create anything worthy of our full devotion.**

Recall God's wonderful works and steadfast love as you seek to do your part.

**We will turn away from our golden calves. It is God who inspires, empowers, and blesses.**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

God our hope and refuge, we confess that anger and hatred have held on to us. Healing has begun, but loss is still real. We are not in control. We don't like being vulnerable. We still want security or the illusion of it. We still want our enemies to be annihilated and for our lives to return to safety and Shalom. Forgive us and heal us. Raise us to new life. Strengthen us in the way of compassion and justice. Fix our faith on you so we know that nothing can separate us from you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Processional Hymn** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* **Page 157**

**PROCLAMATION**

**Old Testament Reading** *Exodus 14:10-31* **O.T. Page 60**

The drama at the Red Sea: God parted the waters to allow the Israelites to go through the sea on dry ground, but clogged the wheels of the chariots of pharaoh's army and then drowned them in the sea.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Act of Praise** *What a Friend We Have In Jesus* **Converse/arr. Cota**

**Children's Message** **Dina Giese**

**Children's Church** (Children age 4 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade may go to the Children's Church Room)

**Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Doxology** **Page 95**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Hymn** *Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom (verses 1,4,5)* **Page 508**

**\*Gospel Reading** *Matthew 18:21-35* **N. T. Page 20**

Peter asks what may be our question: "How many times do I have to forgive someone?" Jesus responds with hyperbole, a story, and a warning.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message** *Are You In A Rut?* **Rev. Charles Swadley**

**RESPONSE**

**Offertory Prayer** **Unison**

Let us pray: **Generous and Loving God, we would not compare the size of our offerings with those of others. Rather, we contrast them with your open-handed provision for us. May we withhold nothing we have to give from involvement in your purposes for this planet. Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem** *Walk in the Spirit* **Lantz**

**SENDING FORTH**

**\*Hymn** *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* **Page 402**

**\*Commission and Blessing**

Stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.

**For us to live is Christ and to die is gain, so we will serve without fear or complaint.**

Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel.

**We will share the good news with others by what we do and in all we say.**

Let your prayers and conversations be filled with joy and thanksgiving.

**We will hold our sisters and brothers in our hearts, upholding their ministry.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the sovereign Jesus Christ. Amen.

**\*Benediction/Benediction Response**

**\*Postlude** *Epilogue* **Williams**

**\*Please stand as you are able. Hearing devices are available (special loops for hearing aids). Large print bulletins are now available. Please see an usher for assistance.**

**Welcome!** We are so pleased that you have chosen to worship with us on this day. Your presence is an encouragement and inspiration to us. Let us celebrate our faith and offer our thanks and praise to God for the blessings he has bestowed upon us. If you desire to join our church, please speak to Rev. Charles Swadley or Rev. Bruce Lake. Membership occurs with Profession of Faith or a Letter of Transfer from another United Methodist Church or other Christian Church.

The **Flowers** on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of my wife, Sarah, by Carroll Cloninger. The **Lay Reader** is Nabil Saad. The **Greeter** for this morning is Helen Adams. **First Response Team:** Mark and Debbie Gillis. The **Lay Speaker** for the Early Morning Service, Sunday, September 21, will be Polly Rowan.

**We have had many needs** for financial assistance this year. The Pastor's Discretionary funds are running low. Thank you for any support you feel called to offer.

**Church Council meets Tuesday, September 16, at 7:00 PM.** Everyone is invited, and encouraged, to attend your Church Council meetings. This is the governing leadership body of your church. Your Council meets on the third Tuesday night of every month. At these meetings you can hear the most up to date financial reporting, gain insight into specific ministry efforts, and participate in the discussions of issues which impact on our church. Although voting is restricted to elected and appointed leadership, you have the opportunity to be heard in this open forum. We respectfully ask that any presentations or items for consideration be submitted in writing at least one week prior to a meeting so that any supporting documentation can be viewed and prayerfully considered by the entire Council. In this way our discussions or questions can be accomplished in the most effective and complete manner.

**Our Church Staff:**

*Ministers*  
*Pastor*  
*Pastor of Visitation Ministries*  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Music Director*  
*Organist*  
*Sexton*  
*Pre-School Director*  
*Ashland District Superintendent*  
*Virginia Conference Bishop*  
Web Site: [www.lakesideum.org](http://www.lakesideum.org)  
Pastor's e-mail address:

*All Members of Lakeside United Methodist Church*  
*The Reverend Charles E. Swadley*  
*The Reverend D. Bruce Lake*  
*Victoria L. White*  
*Jeanne E. Bluford*  
*Caroline Hall*  
*Keith Runge*  
*Cynthia Padden*  
*The Reverend Mark V. Ogren*  
*The Reverend Charlene Kammerer*  
Email: [office@lakesideum.org](mailto:office@lakesideum.org)  
[Charles.Swadley@lakesideum.org](mailto:Charles.Swadley@lakesideum.org)

*We envision churches where all God's people are welcomed at table, nurtured and transformed to be Christ to others in the world*

**Lakeside  
United  
Methodist  
Church**

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262-4446**