THE WORSHIP OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
AT SWIFT CHURCH
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *"Morning Has Broken"*

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Psalm 19* Susan Pichoff
Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
People: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Leader: The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
People: More to be desired are they than gold.
Leader: Let us worship God, our rock and redeemer!

***HYMN** "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" #278
(Vs. 1) Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

(Vs. 2) See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal Love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver, never fails from age to age!

(Vs. 3) Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near!
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which He gives them when they pray. Amen.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**
Silent Prayer *"Surely It Is God Who Saves Me"*
You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen; you have stretched out your hand and we have not taken it. You have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you. We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom. Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel. Give us the insight we need to understand your place in your lives so that our words and actions reflect the glory of God in the lives of others. In the name of the Messiah we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
Leader: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven
People: Thanks be to God!

***PASSING THE PEACE**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.
People: And also with you.

***RESPONSE** "Gloria Patri" #623
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen

**please stand as you are able*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 19

SECOND READING Mark 8:27–38

RESPONSE
Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Take Up Your Cross"
Rev. Alexandra Hutson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN** "Lift High the Cross" #304
(Refrain)
Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim, Till all the world adore His sacred name.

(Vs. 1) Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
(Refrain)

(Vs. 2) Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
(Refrain)

(Vs. 3) O Lord, once lifted on the glorious Tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw men unto Thee.
(Refrain)

(Vs. 4) Set up Thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace.
(Refrain)

(Vs. 5) For thy blest Cross which doth for all atone,
Creation's praises rise before Thy throne.
(Refrain)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *"The Apostles' Creed"*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *"Be Thou My Vision"*

***RESPONSE** "Doxology" #625

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.

***PRAYER AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

SENDING

***HYMN** "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" #380

(Vs. 1) I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

(Refrain)
Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea.
Daily, walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

(Vs. 2) Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
(Refrain)

(Vs. 3) When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.
(Refrain)

***TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

***CHARGE**

Leader: Good people of Swift Church, who are you?

People: Striving to bring God joy, we proclaim Christ's love and grace through serving and nurturing body, mind, and soul.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *"I Have Decided To Follow Jesus"*

Please join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments immediately following worship!

Welcome to Swift Church

September 15, 2024

Striving to bring God joy!

We proclaim Christ's love and grace through serving and nurturing body, mind, and soul.

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