



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**September 6, 2020**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

The Rev. Carson Thaxton  
Children and Family Ministry

**MUSIC OF PREPARATION**

Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Thaxton

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Thaxton and **People**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

The risen Christ is with us.

**Praise the Lord!**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

Rev. Thaxton and **People**

**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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.      \*universal      UMH 881**

**\*INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Rev. Thaxton and **People**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.



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*Let us pray together:*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will,**

**we have broken your law,**

**we have rebelled against your love,**

**we have not loved our neighbors,**

**and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:*

*"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."*

**ANTHEM**

*Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You*

Jay Althouse

*Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know.  
If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go?  
Oh, Lord. I give my soul to you; I seek your care and love.  
No other blessings do I need but those from you above.*

*Lord, I ask you give me faith, and help me understand.  
And Lord, when I this life shall leave, just hold me in your hand*

**\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Thaxton and **People**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Matthew 18:15-20*

Rev. Thaxton

*"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."*

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Anyone but you*

Rev. Thaxton

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

... And so,  
with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

... And so,  
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

... Through your Son Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

## 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.**

## COMMUNION

*You are invited to contribute to the benevolence fund as you exit to assist those in need.  
Please take communion at your seat and dispose of element containers as you exit the sanctuary.*

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Thaxton and **People**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## HYMN

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.*

*In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart in my heart....*

*Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart....*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart....*

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Thaxton

## POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune in D Major*  
Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

Henry Purcell

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only.  
Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.  
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

### Please remember in your prayers:

Jackie Amos  
Billy Arnold  
Van Askew  
Carolyn Broady  
Annelle Burch  
Joe Byers

Quentin Cash  
Richard Clayton  
Howard Dunham  
Sally Dunham  
Margaret Grainger  
Martha Hale

Eddy Householder  
Cindy Jennings  
Doris Kerlin  
Margie McClendon  
Lurlene Perry  
Claudia Rhodes

Sue Sheddan  
Mabel Wilbanks  
Brad Wilkinson



175 East Lanier Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214

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