June 15, 2025, 10:30 a.m. Anderson Auditorium

GATHERING

*Opening Sentences

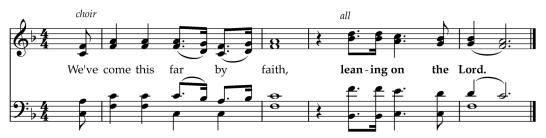
Psalms 124 and 46

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
The Most High is our refuge and strength,
a present help in trouble.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*Hymn 647 Give Thanks

GIVE THANKS

*Confession and Pardon



God of compassion, you have been our help, our hope, our shelter, our guard, our eternal home. You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your promises.

silent prayers



In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Welcome to Summer Worship in Montreat.

Asterisks * invite us to rise in spirit or body.

Words in bold are for all to say or sing.

Congregational songs are found in the pew hymnal, *Glory to God*, or in the order of worship.

Two songs undergird our praise and confession. The first, by Henry Smith, is a vibrant hymn of thanksgiving; the other is part of the chorus to a beloved gospel hymn by Albert A. Goodson. *Hymn 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD

*Peace

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

WORD

Invitation

Be still and aware of God's presence

within and all around.

Scripture Job 2:11-13

Acts 2:42-47

Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Being Church" The Reverend Thomas Daniel

RESPONDING

*Affirmation

from The Belhar Confession

Together we confess that God unites us in faith.

Together we come to know the height,

and the breadth,

and the depth of the love of Christ.

Together we are built up to the full stature of Christ.

Together we know and bear one another's burdens.

We admonish one another.

We comfort one another.

We suffer with one another.

We need one another.

We build up one another.

Together we pray.

Together we serve God in this world.

Together we fight against all

which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Thanks be to God.

This invitation to centering and listening comes from the many Celtic prayer texts by John Philip Newell. The quietly powerful music was composed last year by North Carolinian Sally Ann Morris.

The Affirmation of Faith is based on the Confession of Belhar, drafted in the 1980's out of the South African fight against apartheid. It is adapted by Barbara Hedges-Goettl.

Prayers of the People

"...silence may be kept..."

Dan Locklair, composer

In your compassion and love, **be present, O Christ.**

*Hymn 36 For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

Offerings

*Hymn We've Come This Far by Faith WE'VE COME THIS FAR all singing refrain We've come this far by faith, Lean-ing on the Lord: Trust - ing in His ho - ly word, He's nev-er failed yet. Oh me can't turn a - round, We've come this far by faith.

Don't be discouraged when trouble's in your life. He'll bear your burdens and move all misery and strife. *R* From the suite *Rubrics*, this short movement rests in stillness, inviting our prayers. Those prayers begin with a quote from Paul Claudel, French poet and playwright (1868-1955) and conclude with a hymn.

This full refrain is also found, in different form, at Hymn 656 in *Glory to God*.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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 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.

SENDING

*Hymn 747 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth/Enviado soy de Dios

*Benediction and Charge

*Voluntary Festal Flourish

Gordon Jacob, composer

Assisting in Worship:

Richard DuBose, Montreat Conference Center President
The Reverend Thomas Daniel, Pastor,
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Austin, Texas
Hannah Garrity, Artist in Residence
Alec Peters, Summer Worship Liturgy Writer
Heather Scott, Production Associate
Eric Wall, Conference Center Musician
Summer Singers

This hymn's energy reflects the boldness of its words, which are an expansion of the Lord's Prayer phrase (in translation) with which it ends: "Help us, O Lord, we pray to do your will today."

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reserved.
The Call to the Prayers of the People includes a quote from French poet and playwright Paul Claudel (1868-1955).
"We've Come This Far by Faith" by Albert A. Goodson, arr. Jimmie Abbington; © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc.; OneLicense A716815.
The Invitation to the Offering and the Prayer of Thanksgiving are

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