

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

**Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Air in F*

George Frederic Handel

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Come gather together here in the presence of Christ, who is our friend calling us into community.

**People: We are here, and in our worship together, we yearn for hope and comfort.**

Liturgist: Let us reach to the heart of Jesus, who is our life.

**People: We encounter our Lord, who makes us whole.**

Liturgist: Here we are welcome and loved and cherished.

**All: Here we are the Body of Christ. Let us rejoice and give God praise.**

\*HYMN

*All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord*

No. 554

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **Here we are God's people, inspired by the Spirit ... to witness more effectively, to listen more deeply, to speak more truthfully, to live more peacefully, to love more energetically, to teach more eloquently, to pray more seriously, to worship more enthusiastically, to celebrate more joyfully, to sing more faithfully, to give more generously, to serve more compassionately.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Philippians 2:1-11*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

*See Ye First (verse 1)*

No. 405

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH of the United Church of Canada

No. 883

SPECIAL MUSIC

*God Be the Glory*

arr. James Curnow

Max Liedtka, Tuba solo

SECOND READING

*Acts 2:42-47*

MESSAGE

*"Because Life Is Better Connected: Relationship"*

Rev. Dave Harris

\*HYMN

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

No. 560

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession

Pastor: All too often, we tell God we will do better, and be better, and then just go on living the same way we always have. Let this be the moment, when we tell our God of our failures and faithlessness, so we can go forth to work in that kingdom of grace and hope.

Join me as we pray.

People: **We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid in judgment. Forgive us, God who came down to us. Humble us, that we might be true servants to the broken and lost. Split open our frozen hearts, that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting.**

**Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope.**

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

**Breath on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

*Trio*

Josef Rheinberger

\*Congregational Response      Tune: *Hendon*  
*Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.*  
*Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.*  
*Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

\*HYMN      *Jesus, United by Thy Grace*      No. 561

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor: You have been blessed by being in fellowship this morning.  
Now go out remembering that life's better when we are connected as friends.  
**People: We are the Body of Christ. Let us rejoice and give God praise. Amen.**

\*ORGAN RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE      *Concerto No. 2 in G Major*      Johann Sebastian Bach

\*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

Thank you Rev. Dave Harris for sharing the message with us this morning.  
We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.  
Liturgist: Rowena Fink  
Thank you to Max Liedtka for our Special Music



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor  
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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor  
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## TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

### *Celebration of Faith*



Because Life Is Better Connected:  
Relationship

August 20, 2023

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042  
church: 717-272-7741 / [www.umcogs.org](http://www.umcogs.org)

Sermon Outline:

Calendar for Week of 8/20/2023

Because Life is Better Connected: Relationship  
Philippians 2:1-11; Acts 2:42-47  
Rev. Dave Harris

Christian community starts with “connection”, with simple friendships and relationships. God’s Spirit moves in our midst to grow and deepen these connections, forming us into the Body of Christ.

There are different types of Community Groups. Some are based on Study, some on Service/Mission and some on Common Interests/Fellowship. Many Groups are a combination of all these elements.

All Community Groups include mutual support and care for one another. All are intentional and welcoming.

Got room for a friend in your life? Try out a Community Group ... Because Life is Better Connected

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### **Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd**

We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

### **2023 Mission Support**

#### International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

#### Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery, Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM), Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.

### **SUNDAY**

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

### **MONDAY**

10-12 - Staff Meeting

5:00 - CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

7:00 - Board of Trustees Meet [Lounge]

### **TUESDAY**

### **WEDNESDAY**

8:30-4 - Pastoral Interviews [Lounge]

5:00 - Celebrate Recovery

### **THURSDAY**

5:00 - Contemporary Design Team

5:30 - Traditional Design Team

### **FRIDAY**

### **SATURDAY**

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

10:00 - Community Group Huddle [Lounge]

12:-6:00—Private [Hall]

6:00 - Open Art Night

### **SUNDAY**

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

11:00 - SS Picnic [Hall/Pavilion]

Youth Group -

see Youth Page in the Announcements