

**July 31, 2022 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Prelude Music and Bringing in the Light

*Greeting and Announcements*

**Welcome Statement** (Printed on the bulletin insert)

**Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 6)

**Leader: O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger,  
or discipline me in your wrath.**

**Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;**

**O Lord, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.**

**My soul also is struck with terror,**

**while you, O Lord—how long?**

People: Turn, O Lord, save my life;

deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.

For in death there is no remembrance of you;

in Sheol who can give you praise?

**All: The Lord accepts my prayer.**

**All my enemies shall be ashamed and struck with terror;**

**they shall turn back, and in a moment be put to shame.**

**Come, let us worship**

**Silence** ...a time to breathe...

\* 1<sup>st</sup> Hymn - NCH 278 - "Creator God, Creating Still"

\* **Prayer**

Gracious God, we are a people created by your love, formed by the words of Jesus and breathed into life by your Spirit. In your grace, we are whole but left to ourselves we wander, and need to be led home again. Left to ourselves we hold your blessing too close and need to be persuaded again to be channels of your kindness to the people around us. By your Spirit, Generous God, shake us and shape us more each day into the people you want us to be we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Assurance:**

*Anyone who is in Christ, St Paul said, has become a new creation altogether. The old is finished and gone. Everything has become new. This is the gospel of God's grace by which we are redeemed and made whole and for which we all say:*

***Thanks be to God!***

\* **Gloria Patri**

**Children's Story**

**First Song:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading**

**Romans 5:1-2; 6-11**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading**

**Matthew 13:45,46**

**Sermon**

**Invitation to the Table** *At This Table*

*If you're hungry, or even just curious, come and eat.*

**Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

\* **Doxology**

\***The Apostle's Creed**

\* **Closing Hymn - NCH 452 - "Savior, Who Dying Gave"**

\* **Benediction**

The love of God be the passion in your heart.

The joy of God your strength when times are hard.

The presence of God a peace that overflows.

The Word of God the seed that you might sow.

*([faithandworship.com](http://faithandworship.com))*

**Postlude**

\* ***Please stand if you are able***

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgists: Herm & Deb Tschudy

Our “Whadd'ya Wanna Know” sermon series continues this morning. What happens next depends on you. So if there is any question you’ve always wanted to ask but weren’t sure you could, here’s your chance. Any question—God, faith, doubt, anything Bible. Is hell for real? Why are so many people fleeing the churches? Politics? Morality? Is chocolate really holy?

I’m not promising final and complete answers, but we will start some lively, and I hope fruitful, conversations. So slip me a note after the worship service, call or email your question to the church office or meet me for a cup of coffee over at John Joseph Coffee Shop sometime soon.

Brad

### Welcome Statement:

*“Come to me,” Jesus said, “all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest”* (Matthew 11:28)

Reflecting the friendship of God toward all Creation, First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all persons—those of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, races, ages, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances. We recognize all as children of God, welcome all to worship and serve with us and consider all who come to be a necessary part of this fellowship with all its privileges and responsibilities.

### Romans 5:1-2; 6-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God...

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—

though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

### Matthew 13:45,46

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

### The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come again to judge the living 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.