**ST. JOHN’S and ST. PAUL’S UCC**

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 24, 2025**

**Rev. Dan Borchers**

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” Maya Angelou

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GREETING

 Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.

 **Praise be to God!**

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The world rejoices!

**ALL: THE GLORY OF GOD SHINES IN THE MORNING SUNRISE, AND SINGS WITH THE CHORUS OF DAWN.**

One: The world rejoices!

**ALL: THE LIVING WORD WE CALL JESUS CHRIST IS LOOSE IN OUR WORLD. THE SICK ARE HEALED AND THE DOWNTRODDEN ARE LIFTED UP.**

One: The world rejoices!

**ALL: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK, THE SUFFERING GAIN NEW HOPE, OUR FAITH IS ALIVE!**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: Let us pray.

**ALL: WE COME INTO YOU PRESENCE, O GOD, THOUGH WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO LEAVE OUR PRESSING CONCERNS BEHIND. WE COME INTO YOUR PRESENCE, KNOWING HOW MUCH WE HAVE TO THANK YOU FOR. WE COME INTO YOUR PRESENCE, KNOWING THAT YOU ARE ALREADY WITH US. BLESS US WITH THE ASSURANCE OF YOUR CONSTANT CARE. AMEN.**

SONG #8 Praise to the Living God

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 1:4-10 Kathy Rehrauer

**Jeremiah’s Call and Commission**

**4**Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, **5**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” **6**Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” **7**But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. **8**Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.” **9**Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. **10**See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Luke 13:10-17 **Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman**

10Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” 13When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” 15But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

A CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

SONG (on monitors) Shine Jesus Shine

PASTORAL PRAYER (Joys and Concerns)

Lord’s Prayer (unison)

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPONSIVE INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

One: Let us now draw our focus to our response to God’s Word.

**ALL: WE OPEN OUR HEARTS TO RECEIVE, AND WE OPEN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE.**

One: You have made us holy vessels, God, to bear your love and generosity.

**ALL: BLESS US NOW AS WE POOUR OUT THE GIFTS YOU HAVE FIRST GIVEN US.**

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD #625 (While the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below;

Praise him above, you heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

RESPONSIVE OFFERTORY PRAYER

One: Graciously you have given to us O God.

**ALL: Graciously we return these gifts and ask for your blessing upon them**.

One: May our gifts of time talent and funds bring us together with these we serve.

**ALL: BLESS US THAT OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH MIGHT BE A BLESSING TO YOUR WHOLE WORLD.**

SONG #498 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BENEDICTION

One: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you in favor and give you peace.

**ALL: AMEN!**

\*POSTLUDE