



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

## Prelude

*Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

**Gathering**—We gather as God’s people. God has given us faith and hope. God’s message of love is with us. We are growing in the knowledge of God. God calls us out of darkness and into the light. We give thanks with joy to our God! =

**A Time of Prayer**—Holy One, we gather as your people, giving thanks that we can be together to hear your word, offer our prayers, and sing your praises. Draw us together in your love, that we may know you more deeply. Open our hearts to a deeper understanding of your will, and work within our lives, that we may produce the fruit of compassion. =

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

## We Hear God’s Word

*Colossians 1:1-14 (CEB)*

1 From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God’s will, and Timothy our brother. <sup>2</sup> To the holy and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae. Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. <sup>4</sup> We’ve done this since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all God’s people. <sup>5</sup> You have this faith and love because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You previously heard about this hope through the true

message, the good news, <sup>6</sup> which has come to you. This message has been bearing fruit and growing among you since the day you heard and truly understood God's grace, in the same way that it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world. <sup>7</sup> You learned it from Epaphras, who is the fellow [servant] we love and Christ's faithful minister for your sake. <sup>8</sup> He informed us of your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> Because of this, since the day we heard about you, we haven't stopped praying for you and asking for you to be filled with the knowledge of God's will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding. <sup>10</sup> We're praying this so that you can live lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way: by producing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> by being strengthened through his glorious might so that you endure everything and have patience; <sup>12</sup> and by giving thanks with joy to the Father. He made it so you could take part in the inheritance, in light granted to God's holy people. <sup>13</sup> He rescued us from the control of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. <sup>14</sup> He set us free through the Son and forgave our sins.

## **Meditation**

*Where There Is Life, There Is Hope*

## **Hymn**

*Give Thanks, #359*

## **We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**—It is with hearts of thanksgiving that we bring our gifts to God this day. God in Christ has given us so many reasons to hope for the future. We've received a call to serve, enrich, and transform the world around us. Let our gifts this day affirm the hope we know in Christ, and may God turn these gifts into bountiful fruits of love and grace.

## **July Benevolence**—Southeast Association Eviction Ministry

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at [www.zionuccindy.net/donate](http://www.zionuccindy.net/donate)

## **Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**—Bountiful God, your love bears the fruit of hope and grace; your ways lead to fullness of life. May today's offering bear fruit in our

world, that your love may cause old hatreds to cease, old wounds heal, and old divisions mend. Amen.~

**Hymn**

*Because He Lives, #447*

**Benediction**—Go forth in the strength of God’s glorious power. Go forth in the hope and peace of Christ. Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit. Go with God.~

**Postlude**

*Exultate Deo*