

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Opening of the Scriptures and Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Welcome to Worship Laura Edgar

* The Call to Praise Ruthie Spiers

Leader: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses!

People: We stand shoulder to shoulder with shepherds and saints.

Leader: Let us run with perseverance.

People: Let us follow Jesus, the pioneer of our faith.

* Hymn 255 *We Are God's People* SYMPHONY

* The Invocation Ruthie Spiers

The Scripture Reading *Jeremiah 23:23-29* Morris Driggers
(The scripture may be found on p. 634 of the pew Bible)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Instrumental Interlude

PRESENTATION *of BIBLES to our* First Graders

George Aston, Olympia Carpenter, Jensen McInnis
Rosalind Murrah, Russ Oliver, Grayson Caroline Plyler

Recognition and Presentations Morris Driggers

Leader: O God, we give thanks for your guidance, for you sent us Jesus, our Teacher, to model for us the ways of grace and wisdom.

People: Open our ears to your word and draw us closer to you, that the world may be one with you as you are one with us in Jesus Christ.

Leader: We give these Bibles to our children as a gift of love. Receive this Bible, learning its stories and studying its words.

People: They tell us who we are, as children of God. They tell us that we belong to one another. They lead us on a journey, giving thanks to God and caring for others.

RECOGNITION *of our* Sixth Graders

Mattie Anne Oliver, Luke Sabo, Jackson Walker, Matthew Walker

Recognition and Presentations Laura Edgar

Leader: The tree banner on our pulpit reminds us of growth in our lives and our faith as we journey with God.

People: God nurtures us with steadfast love and abiding grace.

Leader: We give you this tree to recognize the growth of your journey, to remind you of God's love, and to celebrate your roots in this family of faith.

People: We give thanks for you! We will grow together as we continue to support each other on each new step of our journey.

OUR FAITH FAMILY ... SHARING

Prayer Concerns of Our Church and World Tripp Martin

The Preparation for Prayer 399 Taizé Community
O Lord, Hear My Prayer

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

The Ministry of Silence

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer Tripp Martin

Our Father, which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR FAITH FAMILY ... PROCLAIMING

* Hymn 76 *If You Will Only Let God Guide You* NEUMARK

The Scripture Reading *Hebrews 11:29-12:2* Laura Edgar
(The scripture may be found on p. 978 of the pew Bible)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Choral Worship *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story* Peterson
Sanctuary Choir

The Sermon Tripp Martin
Family Album

OUR FAITH FAMILY ... RESPONDING

* Hymn of Commitment 488 BEACH SPRING
Come, All Christians, Be Committed

This hymn affords all of us a chance to consider our response to today's worship. The minister will welcome you at the front of the sanctuary if you would like to make a public commitment today.

The Receiving of New Members

The Offertory Prayer Laura Edgar

The Offertory *His Eye Is on the Sparrow* arr. Varner
Scarlett Sheils, organist

The Introduction of New Members

BLESSING *of the* BACKPACKS

Prayer of Blessing Tripp Martin

Leader: As school begins, we ask a blessing on those who will carry these backpacks. May our students know the blessing of your presence and our constant support.

People: We give thanks for those who teach and instruct. Give them energy, creativity, and love for each student. May our teachers know the blessing of your presence and our constant support.

Leader: Be near to each student as they seek opportunities to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Broaden the horizons of their lives as they discover the width of your love and hope for the world.

People: Strengthen them as they learn, walking with them through every lesson and trial. Provide them with the rich experiences of friendship, joy, and curiosity, instilling within them character and empathy for others.

All: Bless, O God, these backpacks and all who will carry them. Amen.

* The Sung Benediction Spiritual (arr. Whalum)
I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, any time!

* standing as able

ushers will seat worshippers

In order to preserve an atmosphere of worship, we respectfully ask that all electronic devices be silenced.

Children's worship activity kits are available for children in grades K-3 at each entrance to the sanctuary. You are welcome to take one for your child as you enter, then please return it as you exit the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten/first grade will return to their class after the Lord's Prayer. If this is your child's first time to participate with this group, please accompany them to complete an emergency-information card.

The Lay Worship Leader for August is Ruthie Spiers. Originally from Charleston, South Carolina, she moved to Auburn for graduate school and never left. Ruthie is married to Jay Spiers and has three daughters, Annie (13), Millie (9), and Francie (7). Ruthie has been a member of Auburn First Baptist since 2009. She has taught Preschool and College Sunday School and has served on the Preschool, Children's, and Ordinance Committees.

Acknowledgments: *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* - Jacques Berthier & Taizé Community, © 1982 Taizé Community • *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story* - text by Frances H. Rowley, setting by Dale Peterson, © 1990 Beckenhorst Press • *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* - arr. © the estate of Wendell Whalum • All texts used by permission. CCLI No. 11445330.