

Minnesota Valley Church; Sunday, August 24, 2025
11th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude: Rebekah Olson

HYMN Picked by Rebekah and Sharon

CALL TO WORSHIP: from Psalm 50

PASTOR: "Hear, O my people...

ALL: I am God, your God.

PASTOR: I know every bird in the mountains,

ALL: And the creatures of the field are mine.

PASTOR: If I were hungry I would not tell you,

ALL: For the world is mine, and all that is in it.

PASTOR: Sacrifice thank offerings to God,

ALL: Fulfill your vows to the Most High,

PASTOR: And call upon me in the day of trouble;

ALL: I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

HYMN #184 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Reader: Carol Hoikkala

Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 66:20-24* *And they will bring all your brothers, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD--on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels," says the LORD. "They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. 21 And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites," says the LORD. 22 "As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure. 23 From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD.*

Epistle Lesson: *Hebrews 12:4-11* *In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, 6 because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." 7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8 If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! 10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.*

READER: Here ends the reading of God's Word.

CONGREGATION SINGS: God be praised, for His glad Tidings!

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed- I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen*

Gloria Patri: *Ambassador Hymnal p. 4* *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

Announcements and Receive Offering
PRAISE AND WORSHIP: Songs to be chosen by Hannah

SERMON: Luke 13:22-30 “BE SURE YOU ARE SAVED”
Grace to you and peace from God our father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

I. THE QUESTION WE NEED TO FACE

Luke 13:22-23 Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. 23 Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

II. THE DOOR WILL BE LOCKED

Luke 13: 24-25 He said to them, 24 "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. 25 Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

III. THE FOOLISH ASSUMPTION

Luke 13:26-27 "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' 27 "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

IV. THE AWESOME OUTCOME

Luke 13:28-30 "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. 29 People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 30 Indeed

there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

Hymn #431 “Softly and Tenderly”

Today we close with an altar call for salvation.

Postlude: Rebekah Olson