

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Lord's Day, June 22, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

***God Calls Us to Worship Him:** Responsive Reading of Colossians 1:15-20

Pastor: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Congregation: For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Pastor: And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Congregation: And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

Pastor: For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

All: and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

*** We Sing in Response:** #457 Red Hymnal “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

* We Seek God's Presence in Prayer

We Confess Our Sins Together : Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ. You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways. Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father; and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.

We Pray Silent Prayers of Confession

God Assures Us We Are Forgiven: Colossians 1:21-23

*** We Sing In Response to God's Forgiveness:** #398 Black Hymnal “God, Be Merciful to Me”

*** We Confess Our Faith Together:** Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 7

Pastor: *What is true faith?*

Congregation: True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.

Missions Moment: Kurt and Jill (MTW Missionaries in Europe)

We Read From God's Word: Colossians 2:1-23

We Pray For The Congregation and Community

We Memorize God's Word: *Romans 8:10-11* But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

We Present Our Tithes & Offerings In Worship

We Worship Through the Music of Offertory: *Amazing Grace– Ellen Singh, flute*

* **We Sing the Doxology:** #731 Red Hymnal "*Doxology*"

* **We Give Thanks to the Lord**

* **We Sing In Preparation for the Word:** #500 Red Hymnal "*Rock of Ages*"

Pastor Reads the Sermon Text: Acts 15:1-21

Pastor Preaches God's Word: "*The First Assembly at Jerusalem*" – Pastor Wes James

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

* **We Sing In Response to the Word:** #78 Black Hymnal "*Grace Greater than Our Sin*"

* **The Lord Sends Us Out (Benediction)**

Sermon Outline
Acts 15:1-21
“The First Assembly at Jerusalem”
06-22-25

Proposition: The apostles and elders at the Jerusalem council gathered and decreed that salvation comes by the grace of God to cleanse the Gentiles and all of God’s people through faith alone.

Main Point One: The Question

Sub Point One: The teaching of “some men”

Sub Point Two: Paul and Barnabas’ dissent

Sub Point Three: Paul and Barnabas’ Appointment

Sub Point Four: Paul and Barnabas’ Testimony

Main Point Two: The Debate

Sub Point One: The Significance of Apostolic Authority

Sub Point Two: Peter’s Speech

Sub Point Three: The Assembly’s Silence

Sub Point Four: Paul and Barnabas’ Speech

Sub Point Five: James’ Reply

Main Point Three: The Ruling

Sub Point One: “No trouble” to the Gentiles

Sub Point Two: Categories of Idolatry of “abstention”