



The Weeds (Matthew 15:24-30)

August 2, 2020

Stories that Matter

Prelude

"Grace Greater Than Our Sin" arr. Mary McDonald
Piano/Organ Duet

Celebration of Community

Welcome to live and online worship here at Saxe Gotha. Remember that the 8:30 Traditional service and the 11:00 AWE Contemporary service are being live streamed and are available on YouTube this morning.

- Thank you to all who participated in the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday and the Mission Lexington Back to School Supplies Drive on Tuesday.
- The First Impressions Team is in need of Ushers and CREW members. To Volunteer, please go to saxegotha.org/news. All volunteers assist once every 6 weeks.
- The Adult Ministry team would like to have a movie night showing "Amazing Grace" (rated PG) on Tuesday, August 4 at 7:00 pm in the Light House. Please bring a snack and a comfortable chair.
- To keep everyone safe at this time of worship we appreciate you all wearing masks and also for not joining in on congregational singing. We want to make sure that everyone stays safe and well.

We Gather to Worship

Music of Preparation (Video)

'What a friend we have in Jesus"- Handbell Small Ensemble

Call to Worship

from 1 Chronicles 16:23-25

L:Sing to the Lord, all the earth!Tell of his salvation from day to day.

P: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

All: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods.

Opening Hymn

#293 Praise the One who breaks the darkness

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and Mighty God, you plant each of us like seeds in your field where we are nourished and nurtured by your sun and rain. You bless us with the knowledge that you want us to grow towards what you call us to be. When we deprive others of that same opportunity, forgive us. When we want to uproot those whom we believe do not belong in our part of the field, forgive us. When we label others as good or bad, forgive us. When we are reluctant to be honest about ourselves and our own faults, forgive us. O God, you know us inside and out, through and through. You search us and lay your hand upon us. You know what we are going to say even before we speak. Lord we pray that you will help us to reach out to the rejected, the lonely and the outcast. We ask that you grow us to look more and more like your son. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Psalm 103:8-12

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Affirmation of Faith

From the Essential Tenets of ECO:

We are all sinners who fall short of God's glory, and we all deserve God's eternal judgment. Apart from the saving work of Jesus Christ, we are incapable of being in God's presence, incapable of bearing the weight of His glory. We rejoice that Jesus Christ offers us safe conduct into the heart of God's consuming and purifying fire, shielding us with His perfect humanity and transforming us by His divine power. Having received such grace, we extend grace to others.

We are not elect for our own benefit alone. God gathers His covenant community to be an instrument of His saving purpose. Through His regenerating and sanctifying work, the Holy Spirit grants us faith and enables holiness, so that we may be witnesses of God's gracious presence to those who are lost.

Gloria Patri

Children's Message (Video)

Passing of the Peace

Doxology #815

Offertory Prayer

Anthem (VIDEO)

"Deep River"

We Hear God's Word

Message

The Weeds (Matthew 15:24-30)

We Respond to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation and Benediction

Closing Hymn

#428 In Christ there is no East or West

Postlude

"Toccata on 'Hymn to Joy'" Douglas E. Wagner
