

# Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost - August 9, 2026

## The Church Gathers

CHIMING OF THE HOUR; ANNOUNCEMENTS; PASSING THE PEACE; PRELUDE

### GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Responsively

Leader: Come, let us approach the throne of grace with open hands and forgiving hearts.

For Jesus has taught us: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Let us lay down our judgments and extend the compassion we have so freely received.

People: *We come to worship the God of unfailing love, who pours out grace upon grace.*

All: *Let us worship the Lord!*

#### \*HYMN #485 (Blue Hymnal)

To God Be the Glory

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Unison

"Blessed are the merciful" — but we are harsh and impatient. Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." Your forgiveness is boundless in mercy when we fail to live in Christlike ways. And yet, we are quick to carry a grudge—quick to find fault, quick to assign blame, quick to harden our hearts toward others. Grant that we may be quick to forgive and slow to condemn.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As Christ has forgiven us, we are to forgive others. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Happy are the merciful; For they shall obtain mercy.

Thanks be to God!

\*GLORIA PATRI - *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.*

#### A WORD FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

## PREPARATION FOR PRAYER

### THE MORNING PRAYERS and THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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 GIVE THANK OFFERINGS TO GOD

### GIVING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY - *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 18:21-35 (Bible p.975)

Matthew 5:7 (Bible p. 958)

### THE SERMON:

Dr. William D. Coker

"Blessed Are the Merciful"

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

### \*HYMN #525 (Blue Hymnal)

Here I Am, Lord

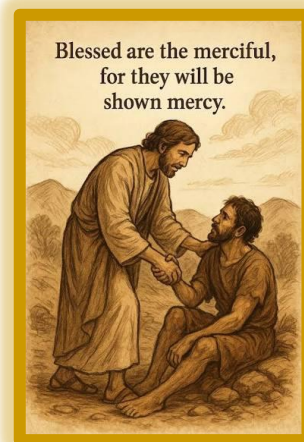
### \*BENEDICTION

May the Lord grant you the grace to forgive past hurts, let go of selfishness, and extend compassion. Go forth with a heart warmed by His merciful love. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE - (\*) *We stand as we are able.*

## Announcements:

1. *Welcome Visitors. We're so glad you are here. Please fill out our Welcome/Prayer Requests Card located on the back of the pew and drop it in the Offering Plate. Please feel free to invite your family and friends to come and enjoy our loving and laughing Church family.*
2. *We will have a fellowship luncheon next Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, after worship.*
3. *Current Sermon Series:*
  - August 9 - "Blessed Are the Merciful"
  - August 16 - "Blessed Are the Pure in Heart"
  - August 23 - "Blessed Are the Peacemakers"
  - August 30 - Guest minister
  - September 6 - "First Things First"
  - September 13 - "Blessed Are Those Persecuted"
4. *Prayer List:*
  - a. *Gail Dekle (the mother of Amyie Mathis) fell and broke her back; she is at the Southwell rehab facility in Adel.*
  - b. *Shane Ferraro: (Bowyers daughter, Peyton's best friend) has finished chemo for Stage 2 colon cancer, but the cancer is not completely gone so he will have surgery and possibly another round of chemo.*
  - c. *Melissa Hughes - (Niece of Marlene Mathis) is undergoing treatment for Stage 4 metastatic bone cancer. Melissa is focused on spending quality time with her children and making memories with them. Pray for this mother of young children and her family as they seek comfort and understanding.*
  - d. *Diann Hall (sister of Rodney Bennett)- has completed surgery and chemotherapy for cancer; doctors are optimistic that they got all the cancer.*
  - e. *New: Stacy Jones (our pianist)- will have diverticulitis surgery*
  - f. *New: Rosalie Rohrer (Margaret Connor's mother) - recently had gall bladder surgery*



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*"THE CHURCH AT PARK AVE NORTH & FOURTH"*

**Our Vision:** Always Be Christ's Disciples

**Our Mission:** To share how Jesus and his love are real  
through all Church activities.

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