

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
August 23, 2026

THE CHURCH GATHERS

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

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader

Hear the good word of our Lord: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God". We come seeking the way of peace in a world broken by division. Christ calls us to step past anger, to heal hurts, and to offer grace. We gather as God's children to lean on the Prince of Peace. Let us worship the God who mends our hearts and binds us together in love. May God's peace fill this space and flow through our hands today. Amen.

***HYMN # 345 (Blue Hymnal)**

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

CONFESSION OF SIN

Unison

God of justice and peace, love and life, we confess that we are often overcome by the loud and persistent voices of fear and anger. We do not hear the voice of Jesus, which seems but a whisper. The voices of anger and fear seem so strong, the wisdom so alluring, the way so sensible and safe. Still Jesus tells us that there is another way— the way of peace and justice, the way of love and life. When we lack the courage to seek your way, O God, when fear and anger overwhelm our faith, encourage and embolden us. Open us, O God, that we may follow the Prince of Peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God will not keep silent, but will gather us in with the tender words: "You are forgiven."

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 Micah 4:2-3; Ephesians 2:14-17 (Bible p.921; 1157)
Matthew 5:9 (Bible p. 958)

THE SERMON:

Dr. William D. Coker

"Blessed Are the Peacemakers"

***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 # 403 (Blue Hymnal)**

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

***BENEDICTION**

You have heard the words of healing and of peace. You have been blessed by the Spirit of God. Go now into God's world to be the spirit of hope, peace and blessing for others, knowing that God is always with you. Go in peace. 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. The flowers are given today by Melvin & Marlene Mathis to the glory of God and in honor of Chad's (their son) and Avery's (their grandson) birthdays.
3. Sermon Series:
 - 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. **New:** Marc & Athelyn Buttrill (Cheryl Coker's parents) - minor health issues
 - b. **Update:** Gail Dekle (the mother of Amyie Mathis) has been diagnosed with Stage 4 nonalcoholic Cirrhosis of the Liver. She is staying with Chad & Amyie.
 - c. **New:** Jim Hall (friend of the Cokers) - battling cancer
 - b. **Shane Ferraro:** (Bowyer's daughter, Peyton's best friend) has Stage 2 colon cancer
 - c. **Melissa Hughes** - (Niece of Marlene Mathis) is undergoing treatment for Stage 4 metastatic bone cancer.
 - d. **Stacy Jones (our pianist)**- recovering from surgery
 - e. **Donnie Sumner** - balance issues
 - f. Pray for those who have unspoken prayer requests that they find the answers and comfort they need.
 - g. **Last week the Session decided on 15 new Commitments for Christ which can be found on the insert in the bulletin.**

Jesus laid down His life to make peace between God and sinners. Does Christ's peace rule in your heart? Are you seeking to bring His peace to those around you? The Bible says, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts (Colossians 3:15).

Find peace with God today.

Billy Graham Ministries



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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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