

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost      August 29, 2021      9:30 am

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Gathering and Welcome

\*Call to Worship

One: How does God appear?

**All: Not with a voice like mere mortals, yet God speaks in many ways.**

One: In the bountiful creation around us the midnight skies tell of God's glory, the midday sun displays holy radiance.

**All: Each new day speaks God's language, and night after night knows more than it can tell.**

One: Yet it is the cross of Jesus that speaks most profoundly. The talk of the cross sounds absurd to those who think they are sophisticated, but for us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

**All: Amen! Let the way we speak and the way we think be acceptable in your sight, O God, our strength and our redeemer.**

\*Opening Hymn      "For the Beauty of the Earth"      No. 92

\*Opening Prayer

**This place for us is holy ground. The place where we sing songs of praise to the Lord, and repeat the stories of faith that inspire us to respond to Christ's love. God called us here, in whispering winds and in burning flames, and with his presence disarms us of the barriers we have placed around us. Here God meets us in our vulnerability and our humanity. Let us worship the Lord. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Scripture Reading      James 1:17-27

\*Hymn of Preparation      "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"      No. 357

Scripture Reading      Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

Sermon      Becoming the First Fruits of God's Creatures      Pastor Sam

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn      "Take My Life and Let it Be"      No. 399

\*Blessing and Benediction

**Large print bulletins and hymnals are available. If you would like one, please see an usher.**