

Worship for August 29

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship in the presence of God,

As if we stood on God's holy hill.

We gather to worship as children of God,

As if we were standing in the waters of grace.

We gather to worship the living God,

For God is here among us.

(Call to Worship Vol. 54.1)

**OPENING MUSIC – *He Hideth My Soul*, William Kirkpatrick, arr. Mark Hayes
Dr. Christy Wisuthseriwong, piano**

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and mercy, your light shines within us illuminating those places we prefer to keep hidden. You know full well the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Lord, remind us of your grace this day and extend to us your forgiveness and healing. Remind us that your gaze is not one of judgement but of love. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. (silent prayers)

(adapted FOTW Worship Companion Year C Vol 1)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

HYMN – *How Firm a Foundation*, Hymn 463, verses 1,2,4,5

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION – Video from Cindy Lee

SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 9:10-19

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

SERMON – *Making an Impact: Inspiring Faith in God*
Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM – *Old Time Religion Medley*, arr. Mark Hayes
Starmount Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

(From "A Brief Statement of Faith" - Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN - *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*, Hymn 829

BENEDICTION