



August 14, 2022 - 10:30 AM
Proper 15

Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: And also with you!

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prelude

There Is a Fountain
Dr. Craig Ralston

Cindy Berry

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

Heb. 12:1

**P: let us also lay aside every weight
and the sin that clings so closely,
and let us run with perseverance
the race that is set before us.**

L: Mindful of the gifts we receive
and confident of the sustenance the Lord provides,

P: let us worship God!

(Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #49

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

FOREST GREEN

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of hope, we confess

our disregard of your care . . .

our doubt of your providence . . .

our blindness to signs of your love.

We are afraid to risk our comforts to find new life;

we separate ourselves from you and from others

and foster divisions between those you love.

Help us to amend our lives

and make us your faithful people

who bear the good fruit of your Word in the world.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Silent Confession)

L: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

(Please be seated)

Anthem

Be Strong in the Lord

L. Johnson/T.Fettke

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Have Mercy on Me, O God with My Faith Looks Up to Thee

arr. Huff

Scott Neese, Baritone

(Please stand as you are able)

Doxology, Hymn # 668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

The Word

Reading of Scripture

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

³² And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please remain seated)

Response, Hymn #19

Be Exalted, O God

BE EXALTED

Prayer for Illumination

⁴⁹ “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Strange Scriptures to Perplex Our Minds”

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day #88

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

(Please remain standing)

Affirmation of Faith

**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.**

(Please be seated)

Prayers of the People, concluded with The Lord's Prayer in unison:

**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.**

Sending

Benediction

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Dr. Craig Ralston

Heather Sorensen

Assisting in Worship:

Liturgist: Lauree Birchmeier

Ushers: Beth Wingate, Sharon Tootle, Sandy Stamper, Jean Risdon

Larry & Shirley Culver, Mike Vest & Lolly Platt

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad

Mountain Reformed Church

Mailing address: 1925 Timber Point West, Prescott, AZ 86303

www.mountainreformed.org

Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at www.mountainreformed.org for more information about our church.

Pastor on Call

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm will be the Pastor on Call for the month of August. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email eugenegrimm@me.com or call 928-925-6057.

MRC Name Badges

If you would like an MRC name badge, please send your name as it should appear to Mary Bricker: marybricker18@gmail.com and she will have one made.

MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or "This Week at Mountain Reformed Church" email? Please send your info to Emily Lawhead at ejlawhead@gmail.com. The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

COVID-19 Precautions

Mountain Reformed Church seeks to provide in-person worship while maintaining appropriate safety guidelines. If you are experiencing fever or symptoms, please stay at home.

Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain

Prayer cards are now available at the usher's table. If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: lyndi@milehighlending.com. You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God's love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! Shawls can also be given in celebration of milestones such as graduations, weddings, and new babies. Our shawls are lovingly created by Sharon Tom, Barbara Poland, Sheri Simpson, and Debra Ochoa. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not

have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate in this ministry as well. Please email Sharon: sharonctom@yahoo.com.

Card Ministry

Cards for encouragement, celebration, sympathy, get well, birthdays, and more can be mailed out via our Card Ministry. Sheri Simpson, Carolyn Peterson, Lyndi Peacock, and Beth Wingate are coordinating this ministry and can always use donations of cards and stamps. Please let us know if you have someone whose day would be brightened by receiving a card from Mountain Reformed Church! Please email Sheri: charlieandsheri@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers in several areas to help facilitate worship. If you would like to help, please let us know! We need Ushers, Liturgists, Coffee Fellowship Helpers, Setup Assistants, Sound Technicians, and Camera Operators.

Flowers

Sheri Simpson coordinates our Flower Ministry. If you would like to commemorate a special occasion by providing flowers, please ask an usher to guide you to the flower sign-up chart.

8/7/2022 Worship Attendance: 54
Bank Balances as of 8/10/2022: \$26,187



*I came to bring
fire to the earth...*

LUKE 12 : 49 , N R S V

Mountain Reformed Church Expense Budget

Mountain Reformed Church Expense Budget	(reflects our current operating expenses, not all projected expenses)		
	Weekly	Monthly	Annually
Auditorium Rental	\$300.00	\$1300.00	\$15600.00
Choir Room (Civic Center 331)	\$30.00	\$130.00	\$1560.00
Internet Presence (Website, email, streaming license, etc.)	\$17.31	\$75.02	\$900.28
Video Editing	\$150.00	\$650.00	\$7800.00
Printing	\$80.00	\$347.00	\$4160.00
Licensing (Church Copyright License)	\$6.44	\$27.92	\$335.00
Music Expenses (choir music, congregational arrangements, ensemble music)	\$150.00	\$650.00	\$7800.00
Insurance	\$14.77	\$64.00	\$768.00
Guest Pastors	\$300.00	\$1300.00	\$15600.00
Ryan Gastonguay, Minister of Music	\$250.00	\$1083.00	\$13000.00
Pianists/ Accompanists	\$200.00	\$867.00	\$10400.00
Total Expenses	\$1498.52	\$6493.94	\$77923.28