

**First United Methodist Church of Toms River  
Sanctuary Worship ~ September 17, 2023 ~ 10:30am**

*Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

---

PRELUDE

*Going Home*

Brad Nix

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 91:14-15

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

**Ministers: Thanks be to God!**

\*HYMN No. 110

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Mighty God, the one who has created the heavens, who sees all and knows all, we are struggling. In this world, we often feel as if no one can hear us...including you. We live lives of quiet desperation and loneliness. We cover our struggle with a mask of smiles and laughter, yet deep inside we feel alone. Please forgive us for living as if you are unable or unwilling to hear us. Forgive us for acting as if we are the only ones who can solve the problem, heal the wound, or fix what is broken. Lord, we need you. Please renew our souls with your forgiveness so that we may live a life that gives joy and attracts others to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who always listens and always cares...**

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

\*RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: We know God hears us.

**Ministers: The Lord hears and answers our prayers.**

Pastor: The Mighty One loves us deeply.

**Ministers: The Creator cares about every aspect of our lives.**

Pastor: The Holy One holds every tear we shed in a bottle and never forgets...

**Ministers: ...Every struggle, every request, every hope. Praise the Lord!**

\*PRAISE RESPONSE

**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, Amen**

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED – No. 881

**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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE No. 561 *Jesus, United By Thy Grace*

**Jesus, united by thy grace and each to each endeared,  
with confidence we seek thy face and know our prayer is heard. (2x)**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Interlude*

Henry Smart

PRESENTATION OF OUR TRUST, TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY No. 95

\*HYMN No. 430

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MESSAGE

**Getting Up After A Fall**

Nehemiah 1:1-11

\*HYMN No. 467

*Trust and Obey*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Short Fantasy A Minor*

Walker Baylor

\*Indicates that those who are able, please stand





SISTERS IN CHRIST

**General Meeting  
September 30, 2023  
11:00am – 2:00pm**

Family Life Center  
Speaker – Dr. Kris Kaulback  
Mainline Medical

Bring your lunch  
Coffee, tea and cake will be provided

This event is open to anyone who would like  
to hear this speaker, (husbands welcome)!

Please sign up by filling out your name and phone number,  
tear off and give to the Church Office or  
a member of the Sisters In Christ.

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_