

~ The Reverend Philip C. Spohn ~

*The Altar Flowers are Presented in Loving Memory of Carole Ackerman by Rick & Family*

♪ **Summer Music Series 2026 Guest Musician, Cindi Greatsinger** ♪

**Elvis Week: August 8-16, 2026**

**Prelude:** 'Somebody Bigger Than You and I' Johnny Lange, Hy Heath, Sonny Burke

No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey, **you are welcome here!**

## Welcome & Announcements

### Passing of the Peace

**We are gathered and ready and aware of God's presence.**

**Chime~ Silence~ Prayer~**

**Opening Song:** 'It Is No Secret What God Can Do' Stuart Hamblen

The chimes of time ring out the news; another day is through.  
Someone slipped and fell. Was that someone you?  
You may have longed for added strength, your courage to renew.  
Do not be disheartened, for I have news for you:  
It is no secret what God can do.  
What He's done for others, He'll do for you.  
With arms wide open, He'll pardon you.  
It is no secret what God can do.  
There is no night, for in His light you'll never walk alone.  
Always feel at home wherever you may roam.  
There is no power can conquer you, while God is on your side.  
Just take Him at His promise. Don't run away and hide.  
It is no secret...



### **An Order for the Baptism of Mason Keith Koehler**

The baptism of Jesus is dying to our self-centered endeavors and being resurrected into a life marked by grace, love and hope. When we live in the baptism of Jesus, we touch the hearts of others and help open them to the Holy Spirit and new life in Christ. Live and grow in the new life you have been given!

### **Presentation of Mason**

*Pastor Phil addresses parents*

Trusting in the grace and love of God, do you, Courtney and Josh, desire to have Mason baptized? **We do.**

As you present Mason for baptism, we want to remind you of the gifts and responsibilities that you have to offer him. Life is a journey, and the start we get makes a difference. Today you are making a promise to do all that you can to see that Mason is nurtured in love at home and within a Christian community of faith. May love and understanding never be in want in your home.

Courtney and Josh, do you promise to help Mason grow in the Christian faith and life? **We do.**

*Pastor Phil addresses sponsors*

Adam and Brenden, Mason will grow up surrounded by family, friends, and relatives. You are special people to Courtney and Josh. Will you, with the gifts God has given to you, ensure that the compassion, love, and grace Jesus lived and taught are reflected in your relationship with Mason? **We will.**

*Pastor Phil addresses congregation*

Participation in a community of faith is essential to the Christian life. Each of you as followers of Jesus share in creating a welcoming and nurturing community of faith. Will you use your talents, gifts, and resources to further the ministries of this church as we seek to help all people grow in faith? **We will.**

Water is essential in the journey of life.

- The waters of baptism represent a spiritual cleaning that Jesus offers with forgiveness and love.
- The waters of baptism represent filling the thirsty wells of our souls with the word of God's grace and hope.
- The waters of baptism represent the washing away of the ego-driven self so that the life-giving spirit of God can dwell within.

Jesus says, "Go therefore to all people and make them disciples, followers of Jesus, and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

It is in this spirit that we welcome Mason into a journey with Jesus, forever a child of God.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water so that Mason may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*Pastor Phil baptizes Mason*

Mason, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sustain Mason with the gift of your Holy Spirit, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the love of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Mason, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*A candle is lighted representing the baptized life*

**Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**

God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Courtney and Josh. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of God's love for Mason. Strengthen them in their own baptism so they may live a life of grace and be the light and love of Christ to Mason. **Amen.**

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)

**Mason, child of God, by this act of baptism, we welcome you to a journey that will take your whole life. This isn't the end. It's the beginning of your life with God. What God will make of you, we know not. Where God will take you, surprise you, we cannot say. This we do know, and this we say – God is with you.**

**Baptism Hymn:**      *This Little Light of Mine*

**ELW #677**

**Time for All Ages**

**Josh Gulotta**

**1st Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

**Claire Kostbar**

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar,  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us."

<sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Help us God, as we seek to interpret what this means for our lives.

**Message**

## Reception of Tithes & Offerings

**Anthem:** 'How Great Thou Art'  
Cindi Greatsinger, Soloist  
Bonnie Banks-Beers, Piano

Swedish Tune, adapt. Stuart K. Hine  
Carl G. Boberg, adapt. Stuart K. Hine

## Prayers of the Church

**Judith Chernikovich-Clemens**

*After each petition:* Help us God, **overcome our fear of difference.**

Bryan Gerhab, Gail Varady, Christopher Mann, Jenny Canning, Greg Clemens,  
Ellede D'Andrea, Kathryn Achey, Sheila, Beth Hinchliffe, Wendy Ernst, Mel Jones,  
Elaine Rogers, Matthew Martin, Tiffany Weddle, Leona, Richard, George Suarez, Bill Tone, Kyle

### **Condolences to the Family & Friends of Kimberly Snyder**

*When a name is placed on the Prayer List, it will remain there for one month unless you notify us.  
If you would like a call, a visit, or communion from Pastor Phil, please call the church office.*

*Finally, and together:* **Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness,  
we share all our cares with you, through the unending grace of Jesus,  
whom we love and follow. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Closing Hymn:** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* **ELW #697**

## Benediction

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** 'Lead Me, Guide Me' (Instrumental) Doris Akers

## Theatre Résumé: **Cindi Greatsinger**

♪ Cindi's most recent show was "Rock of Ages" at Munopco, where she played the mayor and was part of the ensemble ♪ Prior to that show, she was role was Kit Kat Klub girl Texas in "Cabaret" at the PA Playhouse ♪ Locally she has also done shows with Moravian College Summer Theatre, PA Youth Theatre, Civic Theatre and Chansonette ♪ Some of her favorite roles include: Lilianne La Fleur in "Mine", Carrie Pipperidge in "Carousel", the Soubrette in "Sugar Babies", Marty in "Grease" and Tessie Tura in "Gypsy" ♪ She is one of "The Jersey Girls" (backup singer for Steve Brosky) and a guest vocalist with Ginger and the Schnappes ♪ She spent a Summer in Chatham NY at the Mac-Haydn Theatre doing Broadway musicals ♪ At Kennywood Amusement Park, she performed 6 shows a day, 6 days a week ♪

