

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*



For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*

Reflections

The fear of God is to be united with the love of God; for love without fear makes men remiss, and fear without love makes them servile and desperate.

J. Gerhard

I wished God were like He used to be, a few notches lower. I wanted Him to be lofty enough to help me but not so uncontrollable. I longed for His warm presence, times when He seemed more... safe.

Joni Eareckson Tada

Vis-a-vis God speaking to me, I don't mean the voice of Charlton Heston playing Moses booming from on high, but reversals of attitude so contrary to my typical thoughts — so solidly true — as to seem divinely external.

Mary Karr
from *Lit: A Memoir*

It is uphill work for the creature to reach the Creator.

Charles Spurgeon

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

Allen Powers,
Leading Elder

Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023

The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost

Call to Worship: from Psalm 98 & Romans 5

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Leader: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Leader: The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Leader: Come and Worship!

Hymn of Praise: Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*

Prayer of Praise and the Lord's Prayer

Confession of Sin

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17-20

And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly. For often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Corporate Confession of Sin

Father, we confess this morning that we have little faith because the things that we trust are little. Though we claim to have faith in Your Son, we often live as if our real trust is somewhere else. We don't trust in Your goodness, or Your sovereignty, or Your wisdom, or Your justice, or Your strength. This unbelief, Lord, leads to fear, and fear leads to self-reliance. Rather than trusting in Jesus, we admit that we trust our own wisdom, our own strength, and our own abilities. We look to ourselves for courage, security, and comfort. We let fear drive our decisions, not faith. We look to ourselves to make things right. We choose ourselves instead of You. We are more afraid of people and circumstances than we trust You. We are afraid of failure, we are afraid of pain, we are afraid of rejection, and we allow that fear to command our lives. You have commanded us to be strong and courageous. You have told us that You are faithful and that You are the One in charge. You have proved it over and over again, and yet we still run to other things. Forgive us, Lord. Increase our faith and turn it always towards You. Amen.

Silent Reflection and Confession

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

Allen Powers,
Leading Elder

Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023

The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost

Assurance of Pardon and the Peace of God: From Isaiah 41

But you, Israel, my servant, you whom I called from the ends of the earth, saying to you, "I have chosen you. Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Leader: People of God, the Rock of Ages, the God of Israel has called you and gathered you as His own, and He will not cast you out, for His Son has suffered and died for our fears and failures and He has risen that we may have peace with God. May that peace always be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Collection of Tithes & Offerings

And Hymn of Response:

Not What My Hands Have Done

1. Not what my hands have done can save my guilt - y soul;
2. Thy work a - lone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin;
3. Thy grace a - lone, O God, to me can par - don speak;
4. I bless the Christ of God; I rest on love di - vine;
5. I praise the God of grace; I trust his truth and might;

not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can make my spir - it whole.
thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace with - in.
• thy pow'r a - lone, O Son of God, can this sore bond - age break.
and with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart, I call this Sav - ior mine.
he calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my light.

Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to thee,
• No oth - er work, save thine, no oth - er blood will do;
His cross dis - pels each doubt; I bur - y in his tomb
'Tis he who sav - eth me, and free - ly par - don gives;

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*

Presentation of Tithes and Offertory Prayer

Hymn: Doxology

Affirmation of Faith: *The Westminster Confession of Faith* Chapter XIV, "Of Saving Faith"

Leader: The grace of faith, whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the saving of their souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ in their hearts,

People: **But the principal acts of saving faith are accepting, receiving, and resting upon Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life, by virtue of the covenant of grace.**

Leader: This faith is different in degrees, weak or strong; may often and in many ways be assailed, and weakened,

People: **But gets the victory through Christ, who is both the author and finisher of our faith.**

Hymn of Response: Gloria Patri

Prayer of Intercession

Hymn of Preparation: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

(Music on next page.)

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday Liturgy

August 13

Anno Domini 2023

Allen Powers,
Leading Elder

The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

457

Samuel ... named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12

♩ D A⁷ D A D G D A⁷ D

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

A⁷ D A D G D A⁷ D

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

A⁷ D G D A⁷ D G D

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der— Lord, I feel it— prone to leave the God I love:

A⁷ D A D G D A⁷ D

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Robert Robinson, 1758

NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.
Asahel Nettleton, 1825

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*

The Preaching of the Word

Scripture: Mark 6:45-52

Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades,
People: **But the Word of our God will stand forever!**

Sermon: **Straining At the Oars** Rev. Ken Nippert

The Sacrament of Communion

Distribution of the Bread

Prayer

Distribution of Wine

Prayer

The Giving of Peace

Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you!
People: **And also with you!**

Closing Hymn: All My Ways Are Known To You

(Music on Next Page.)

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 13
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Eleventh
Sunday
After Pentecost*

All My Ways Are Known To You

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "In days of peace and days of rest, in times of loss and No trial has come be - yond Your hand, no step I walk be - I do not fear the fi - nal night for death will be the lone - li - ness. Though rich or poor, Your word is true that yond Your plan. The path is dark out - side my view, still door to life. You take my hand and lead me through for all my ways are known to You. And oh, what peace that all my ways are known to You. I have found wher - ev - er I may be. For all my ways are known to You. Hal - le - lu - jah they are known to You!"

Benediction: Jude 24-25

Leader: Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever.

And God's people said:

All: Amen