

GATHERING, PRELUDE, Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide 700
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP dwh inspired by liturgy
in 2010 Abingdon Preaching Annual

*We gather that we may remember; ...
We gather that we may be encouraged in our work; ...
We gather to praise and to worship, because
even when we fail...*

God remains faithful.

HYMN: O God in Heaven, Grant to Thy Children 119

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION unison (by dwh)

*Gracious God, in wisdom you created all things, and
your Son promised that your Spirit would guide us still.
Through these words of scripture today, show us what is true;
guide us for living, that we may bring honor and praise to you.
Amen*

SCRIPTURE: **Jeremiah 23:23-29**

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

CHOIR: God of Grace and God of Glory 577

CONFESSION GB/PO

**Ever-loving God, we confess that
we are not always ready to trust your love.
You call us to step forward in radical faith,
but we cling to what is familiar, comfortable
and non-controversial.
You are eternally at work in the world, but
we struggle to discern your presence
in the signs of the times.
Forgive us, O God.**

**By your grace, give us courage
to stand for what is right and good and
to risk love and justice even when it is unpopular.
Teach us faithfulness and perseverance
for the journey ahead.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

{silent prayers}

ASSURANCE

FotW

*God hears our confession, ...
God lifts us from our despondency ...
God ... brings us to peace.
Rejoice in the knowledge of our reconciliation
and a life lived in the presence of God.*

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven;
Thanks be to God! Amen**

SERMON

HYMN: O God of Every Nation 435

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

BRINGING OUR GIFTS

In Christ we are invited and inspired to lives of grateful generosity.
Let us praise the giver of all good gifts through our offering today.

DOXOLOGY

95

PRAYER

GB/PO

**Generous God, receive these gifts as investments
in your kingdom of love, justice and peace.
Use this money and use our lives
to bring about the world as you intend it.
With gratitude we pray, Amen.**

HYMN:

O Jesus, I Have Promised

396

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

FotW

May the God of creation and restoration
give you confidence in the daily tasks set before you.
The God of love and compassion,
assure you of your heritage as a child of God.
The God of guidance and inspiration, mold you in God's image.
And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
be with you and remain with you always.

Amen

POSTLUDE

My Lord, What a Morning

719

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*This week the author is Virginia "Ginna" Bairby (**GB**)*

or other sources as noted.

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**Is not my word like fire, says the LORD,
and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?
Jeremiah 23:29**

August 17, 2025

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>

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Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year C – After Pentecost – August 17, 2025

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Scriptures

Isaiah 5:1–7 and Psalm 80:1–2, 8–19
or Jeremiah 23:23–29 and Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29–12:2 and Luke 12:49–56

Questions for Reflection:

How do you reconcile a sense of division within yourself and the world
with the unity we are promised as the people of God?
What sustains you in times of conflict?
Identify some occasions in your life when you were unable to
recognize an invitation to reconciliation and wholeness.
How has following Christ caused conflict in your own life
or in the life of someone you know?

Morning Prayers:

Laboring God of this new age, give me wisdom and courage
to understand your will as I live your word this day. Amen.

Lord of Life, we greet this new day sustained by
the great cloud of witnesses who praise your name.
Help us to lay aside any burden or distraction
that might prevent us from fully serving you this day.
Give us perseverance and joy, so that
we may come to the end of the day
confident in your presence and aware of your blessings. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

God of Hope, confirm for us at the close of this day
the fulfillment of your promise of provision.
Release our concerns for things done and left undone.
Give us your peace, so that we rise refreshed
to serve you with openness and love. Amen.

Lord, I have done my best to serve you this day,
yet I often feel I have left so much undone.
Help me to find my rest in you and trust that
in the evening I shall be saved by Love. Amen.

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