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

700

inspired by liturgy

in 2010 Abingdon Preaching Annual

even when we fail...

We gather that we may remember; ...

We gather to praise and to worship, because

We gather that we may be encouraged in our work; ...

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** 

O God of Every Nation 435 HYMN:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

dwh

unison PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (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

Jeremiah 23:23-29 SCRIPTURE:

God remains faithful.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

God of Grace and God of Glory 577 CHOIR:

**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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INTERCESSIONS

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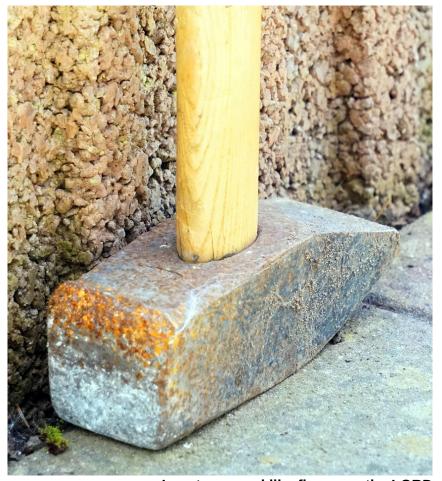
This week the author is Virginia "Ginna" Bairby (GB)

or other sources as noted.

or

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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**

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/website: https://clarksburgmdumc.org/Accompanist: Rick Beede Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

Pastor: Rev. David Hodsdon Cell Phone: 240 676 7825

Email: revdwhodsdon@gmail.com

# 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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