

**Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 14, 2008 10:00 a.m.**

+ + +

*Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

+ + +

~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude "Joy" *J.S.Bach*

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call To Worship

- L:** God is waiting to speak with all of us; do not fear, listen for God's word.
P: **We are waiting and listening for wisdom from God; God's law is our guide.**
L: God is here to embrace and enlist us; do not be afraid to respond to God's love.
P: **Our hearts rejoice in God's love of us; God's forgiveness inspires us to be forgiving.**
L: God is welcoming us this morning. Let us not hesitate to enter this time of worship!
P: **We are here to be enlightened and empowered; may our thoughts and words honor the Lord!!**

Hymn "Freely, Freely" #389

Opening Prayer:

We come this day to honor you, awesome God, to bow before you in praise. You have shown your steadfast love, even when we betray it. You have been our rock and redeemer. Yet you also judge us and allow us to make mistakes and break our promises to you. Make your presence and purposes known to us here. Help us to experience your grace through Christ. Amen.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

Offertory "As The Deer" #2025

Doxology #95

Offertory Prayer

God of our Ancestors, whose laws are timeless and whose ways empower the church, we bring to you the results of our labors. We realize that all our moments and days are precious gifts from you. We dedicate ourselves once more this day to fulfilling your purposes through all you entrust to us and ask that you help us be good stewards of all your gifts. Bless all that the church seeks to accomplish in Christ's name. Amen.

+ + +

~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Sunday School Commissioning & Blessing Insert

Anthem "Hymn Medley"

Reading of the Word
Gospel *Matthew 18: 21-35*

Hymn "How Majestic Is Your Name" #2023

The Message *Rev. Michele Ewers*

+ + +

~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time for Prayer

Lord's Prayer

+ + +

~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn *“He Is Exalted”* **#2070**

Sending Forth

L: We have remembered together that today is holy; let us observe every day as holy, as a way to honor God.

P: **We will honor God’s name in awe and wonder; we will answer God’s love with loyal devotion.**

L: We have reflected on what God commands and we seek to live by God’s design day by day.

All: **We have offered our praise and thanksgiving; we will live by God’s word and speak only the truth. Our souls are revived and our eyes and ears have been opened. Amen.**

Closing Song *“My Life Is In You, Lord”* **#2032**

~Bringing the Light into the World~