

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Debi Hurlburt in memory of Kathy Schlosser

Prelude

Days of Elijah

LPBC Campers & VBS Kids

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. **We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.** In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. **When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.** At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. **We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.** Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Bible Presentation (Faith)

Opening Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father LBW 474

Children of the heav'nly Father, Safely in His bosom gather Nestling bird or star in Heaven, Such a refuge e'er was given

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord, His children sever Unto them His grace He showeth and their sorrows all He knoweth

Though He giveth or He taketh God His children ne'er forsaketh His, the loving purpose solely to preserve them, pure and holy

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

God of all goodness, as we gather together in thanksgiving for a summer full of ministry and in anticipation of the start of another school year, keep our lives centered on you who claims us in the baptismal waters and promises to always journey with us. Transformed by your love and gathered here by faith, let us come before you now in humble worship. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Camp / VBS Photos and Stories

A Reading from Isaiah 58:9b-14

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. ¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; ¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Psalm

A Reading from Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

We Are Called ELW 720

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God! (Refrain) We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God. Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so all hatred and blindness will be no more! (refrain) Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love! (refrain)

Children's Message

Backpack Blessing

God of the harvest, Cultivate in these children, teachers and school staff the fruit of your Spirit as they begin another school year. Fill them with love for learning and for their classmates and students. Make them ready to offer a wide welcome to all who are part of the school community. Fill them with joy on early mornings and long bus rides, during reading and recess, in arithmetic and art, in study and at play. Fill them with peace as they start new routines and transition out of summer's ease into school's demands. Remind them to pause throughout their day for deep breaths and whispered prayers. Fill them with patience as they practice new skills, **share with others**, stumble over unfamiliar words and learn from their mistakes. Fill them with kindness for the kids who are new to the community, who dress weird, who eat alone, who look different but desire genuine friendship. Teach them to make space for everyone at the table. Fill them with goodness as they make choices each day that speak to their character and integrity. May the things they do when no one is looking give you glory and make their parents proud. Fill them with faithfulness as they carry their baptismal promises with them into the classroom. Remind them of their identity as children of God, beloved and precious, even when the test scores are low and the homework is turned in late. Fill them with gentleness in the words they choose and the actions they take. Help them think before they speak so their words build up others around them. Fill them with self-control as they share space with others, as they make room for all learning styles. As they move about in learning and play may their bodies be an example of your care for all creation. We entrust these kids, teachers and school staff to your care, O Lord, at the start of this new school year. Keep them safe and ready to succeed in all the opportunities that await them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Peace

Offering

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Words of Institution

On the night...remembering, therefore, Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming again in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence the prayer that Jesus taught us...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table food that is abundant life. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to go out into classrooms and workplaces, offices and fields, volunteer sites and our own homes hungry only to love the world. In your name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

May God be on your mind, in your heart, on your left and on your right as you go from this place to let your light shine.

Sending HymnGo My Children With My Blessing WOV 721Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.In my love's baptismal river. I have made you mine forever.Go, my children, with my blessing - You are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me; Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free. Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace; I the Lord will smile upon you and give you peace; I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother. Go, my children; I will keep you and give you peace.

Parsonage Procession and Blessing (Rock Creek)

Dismissal Go in peace by faith. Let your light shine. Thanks be to God!