Strawbridge UMC Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – July 31, 2022 (8:30am)

Centering Words — (Hosea 11:1-11, Colossians 3:1-11)
Today's scriptures portray God's faithfulness, even in the face of radical disobedience and unrighteous behavior. In Hosea, God laments that Israel and Ephraim, whom God suckled like a nursing mother, has turned to serve other gods. While God's wrath is stilled, hope is offered. Colossians warns us that our true lives are hidden with Christ in God, and we should avoid reveling in earthly pleasures and unrighteous behavior. Treat all as the Lord Jesus demands.

<u>Call to Worship</u>:

To be secure in earthly treasure, but not rich toward God, is to be poor indeed. With richness, sing praises to our God.

God's love is sure. Christ's love never ends.

Shout for joy all the earth.

God's grace satisfies the thirsty. The Spirit fills the hungry with good things.

Proclaim the Lord's glory.

God's salvation is sure. God's faithfulness never ends.

Morning Prayer—

Voices of Inspiration Selections:

- Every Day is a Day of Thanksgiving (#521 Total Praise)
- A Good Day

Notices/Prayer

Selection: Women of Worship, liturgical dance

Scripture: Colossians 3:1-11 & Hosea 11:1-11

Message Theme: Discernment - A Time to Be Led

Closing Selection: Lead Me, Guide Me #474

Benediction:

Go forth as people raised with Christ to newness of life, whose lives are hidden with Christ in the living God, who led by the Holy Spirit will be revealed in glory when Christ's glory is revealed. Discerning people, GO! **Amen.**