

Third Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

June 18, 2023

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name

Prelude - Celebration Medley – Wyrzten

("Praise Him in the Morning" with "When Morning Gilds the Sky")

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens!

Let the sun and moon praise God,

And the shining stars reveal the glory of the Lord.

Opening Hymn 185** - *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

When morning gilds the skies

my heart awakening cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer,

to Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The night becomes as day

when from the heart we say:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The powers of darkness fear

when this sweet chant they hear:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all the earth around

ring joyous with the sound:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

In heaven's eternal bliss

the loveliest strain is this:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,

my canticle divine:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this th' eternal song

through all the ages long:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Invocation

O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you that you do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading - Psalm 148:1-6

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for he commanded and they were created.

He established them for ever and ever;

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gloria Patri (sung)**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Anthem - *From All that Dwell Below the Skies* - Gordon Young

God's Word for Young Disciples

Scripture Reading - Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon - Write This Down

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response No. 117 – *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.*

*Under the shadow of thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.*

*Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God,
to endless years the same.*

*A thousand ages, in thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.*

*Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.*

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *How Deep the Father's Love for Us* - Larson

Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith

Closing Hymn 534** - *Be Still, My Soul*

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

leave to your God to order and provide;

in every change God faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend

through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake

to guide the future, as in ages past.

Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;

all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know

the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on

when we shall be forever with the Lord,

when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Benediction and Choral Response - (Hymn 666)

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude - *Toccata* - Southbridge



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God.

in loving memory of Ken Kuzas, by Kathy Kuzas and family;
in honor of the anniversary of Tom and Shirley Waltermire.

Service Music: Summer Choir

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

Keep the Change

Who among us actually likes change?

Revelation 21:5 – God's nature is to make things new, to create change

Write This Down

Change can be disorienting, painful, and yet hopeful

vs. 5 – God can be trusted at all times and in all circumstances

Questions for Reflection: How do I personally deal with change and trusting God when things are uncertain? How might I refocus myself from the things that are changing to the possibilities that are opening up through change?

Question for Discussion: When have you experienced a need to rely on God's help? How did God answer your prayers?

Memory Verse: **Psalm 130:1-2a** – *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Readings for this Week: Romans 8, John 1:35-51, Acts 9

CHURCH NOTES

Love Offering: Both Pastor Mike and Pastor Karol's last day at First Church will be Sunday, June 25. Today is the last day to turn in a Love Offering for them. You may place your Love Offering (made out to First Church, but marked Pastor Mike or Pastor Karol, in separate envelopes if possible) in the offering plate, or you may mail it to the church office to the attention of Nancy Yeager. We will celebrate their service, express our gratitude, and say goodbye to both Pastors Mike and Karol with cookies and lemonade on the lawn after the service next Sunday.

Golf Outing On June 24: The 17th Walter "Bud" Mills Golf outing, the major fundraising event for the Epworth Choir Tour, will be held at Brookledge Golf Club on June 24th, at 1:30. There will be prizes, raffle baskets, and dinner. You may also attend just the dinner (contact Dean.) Putt-Putt will be available at Downview from 4:30-6 for a reduced price of \$4 (mention the golf outing.) We are also seeking sponsors for holes, carts, gifts, and baskets. For more information contact Dean Wagner or Jim Boss.

Vacation Bible School: It's time to start the Hero Hotline! VBS starts tomorrow, and we are expecting 63 children to spend the week in our church learning about Jesus and how to become heroes of the faith. Please keep our week in your prayers. Next Sunday we will present some of what took place. Plan to be here to support the children.

Pastor Howard Pippin: We are looking forward to welcoming Pastor Howard Pippin and his family to First Church in July! Pastor Pippin's first Sunday will be July 2, and we will have a cookie reception after the service to welcome him and his family. Also, please plan to meet the Pippin family at the First Friday picnic on July 7 at 5 p.m. at Water Works. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We looking forward to seeing you there!

Paid Position Open: We are looking for a childcare worker for Sunday mornings (9:15 - 10:45 a.m.) this summer and Sunday mornings (9:15 - 11:45 a.m. and evenings (not completely determined yet) starting in the fall. You would be caring for infants through age 3 and a second person is always there. This is a paid position - \$14/hour for the first month and then \$15/hour. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Kuzas for an application.

Visitation Team: We are looking for some people who would like to help us visit our shut-ins and those persons who may be hospitalized or in nursing homes. The Goal is to have people who can visit with them monthly. There is no counseling involved, it is simply to keep them in contact with their church family. If you like to socialize with others, please contact Pastor Mike, or Christy to let them know so we can add you to the team.

Family Promise: For the month of June, we are going to collect the following for the families of Family Promise: Toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap and laundry detergent. Please put your donations in the Family Promise bin by the library.

Good Neighbors is requesting the following: shampoo, shaving cream, toothpaste, deodorant, paper towels, bathroom tissue, laundry and dish soaps, spaghetti sauce, ramen noodles, tomato sauce, and salad dressing.

Christmas Shoeboxes: Acts of Grace, in conjunction with the Epworth Youth Group, are collecting items each month in an effort to pack 100 shoeboxes. The items for June are: girls' hairbrushes, children's sunglasses, and small bouncy balls.

Blessing Box: We currently have a large supply of canned good, but are in need of the following: ramen noodles, individual oatmeal packets, flavored rice/ noodle packets, canned tuna/ canned chicken, pasta, pasta sauce, individual fruit cups, travel sized toothpaste, toothbrushes, travel sized body wash, travel sized shampoo.

1st Church Feeds: At our monthly distribution we give out more than food. Some items that have been asked for are personal hygiene items such as bladder control products for men and women. These items may be dropped off in the bin located behind the welcome center.

Heart4theCity: They have a store where they sell items at very reduced prices. They are currently asking for small kitchen appliances, and bedding. These items may be dropped off in the bin located outside the church library.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
JUNE 18, 2023**



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MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & Mike Ward

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Shirley Asher Mary Ellen Atwood Behrman family Jim Bailey Bill Blank Mark & Cindy Blaser Robert Boyd	Larry Brimlow Jeanette Carlson Don Corbett Jim Evans Jean Finnegan Rose Gregory Mary Griest Joyce Haberkost Jim Henes Phil Hennen	Lee Minier Jack Nitzsche Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Todd Schneider Cynthia Schrier Christina Shaw Bonnie Shultz Michael Taucher Ken Tunstall
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DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Family of member Dorothy Jeanne Wilson on her death on 5/28.
 Kyrstyn Kuzas & family on the death of her mother, Debbie Clem on 5/27.
 Family of member Louise (Lucy) Johnson on her death 5/28.
 Chuck Suter & family on the death of his wife, member Sonia Suter on 5/24.
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Postlude - *Toccata* - Southbridge



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Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

leave to your God to order and provide;

in every change God faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend

through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake

to guide the future, as in ages past.

Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;

all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know

the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on

when we shall be forever with the Lord,

when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Benediction and Choral Response - (Hymn 666)

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude - *Toccata* - Southbridge



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God.

in loving memory of Ken Kuzas, by Kathy Kuzas and family;
in honor of the anniversary of Tom and Shirley Waltermire.

Service Music: Summer Choir

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

Keep the Change

Who among us actually likes change?

Revelation 21:5 – God's nature is to make things new, to create change

Write This Down

Change can be disorienting, painful, and yet hopeful

vs. 5 – God can be trusted at all times and in all circumstances

Questions for Reflection: How do I personally deal with change and trusting God when things are uncertain? How might I refocus myself from the things that are changing to the possibilities that are opening up through change?

Question for Discussion: When have you experienced a need to rely on God's help? How did God answer your prayers?

Memory Verse: **Psalm 130:1-2a** – *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Readings for this Week: Romans 8, John 1:35-51, Acts 9

CHURCH NOTES

Love Offering: Both Pastor Mike and Pastor Karol's last day at First Church will be Sunday, June 25. Today is the last day to turn in a Love Offering for them. You may place your Love Offering (made out to First Church, but marked Pastor Mike or Pastor Karol, in separate envelopes if possible) in the offering plate, or you may mail it to the church office to the attention of Nancy Yeager. We will celebrate their service, express our gratitude, and say goodbye to both Pastors Mike and Karol with cookies and lemonade on the lawn after the service next Sunday.

Golf Outing On June 24: The 17th Walter "Bud" Mills Golf outing, the major fundraising event for the Epworth Choir Tour, will be held at Brookledge Golf Club on June 24th, at 1:30. There will be prizes, raffle baskets, and dinner. You may also attend just the dinner (contact Dean.) Putt-Putt will be available at Downview from 4:30-6 for a reduced price of \$4 (mention the golf outing.) We are also seeking sponsors for holes, carts, gifts, and baskets. For more information contact Dean Wagner or Jim Boss.

Vacation Bible School: It's time to start the Hero Hotline! VBS starts tomorrow, and we are expecting 63 children to spend the week in our church learning about Jesus and how to become heroes of the faith. Please keep our week in your prayers. Next Sunday we will present some of what took place. Plan to be here to support the children.

Pastor Howard Pippin: We are looking forward to welcoming Pastor Howard Pippin and his family to First Church in July! Pastor Pippin's first Sunday will be July 2, and we will have a cookie reception after the service to welcome him and his family. Also, please plan to meet the Pippin family at the First Friday picnic on July 7 at 5 p.m. at Water Works. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We looking forward to seeing you there!

Paid Position Open: We are looking for a childcare worker for Sunday mornings (9:15 - 10:45 a.m.) this summer and Sunday mornings (9:15 - 11:45 a.m. and evenings (not completely determined yet) starting in the fall. You would be caring for infants through age 3 and a second person is always there. This is a paid position - \$14/hour for the first month and then \$15/hour. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Kuzas for an application.

Visitation Team: We are looking for some people who would like to help us visit our shut-ins and those persons who may be hospitalized or in nursing homes. The Goal is to have people who can visit with them monthly. There is no counseling involved, it is simply to keep them in contact with their church family. If you like to socialize with others, please contact Pastor Mike, or Christy to let them know so we can add you to the team.

Family Promise: For the month of June, we are going to collect the following for the families of Family Promise: Toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap and laundry detergent. Please put your donations in the Family Promise bin by the library.

Good Neighbors is requesting the following: shampoo, shaving cream, toothpaste, deodorant, paper towels, bathroom tissue, laundry and dish soaps, spaghetti sauce, ramen noodles, tomato sauce, and salad dressing.

Christmas Shoeboxes: Acts of Grace, in conjunction with the Epworth Youth Group, are collecting items each month in an effort to pack 100 shoeboxes. The items for June are: girls' hairbrushes, children's sunglasses, and small bouncy balls.

Blessing Box: We currently have a large supply of canned good, but are in need of the following: ramen noodles, individual oatmeal packets, flavored rice/ noodle packets, canned tuna/ canned chicken, pasta, pasta sauce, individual fruit cups, travel sized toothpaste, toothbrushes, travel sized body wash, travel sized shampoo.

1st Church Feeds: At our monthly distribution we give out more than food. Some items that have been asked for are personal hygiene items such as bladder control products for men and women. These items may be dropped off in the bin located behind the welcome center.

Heart4theCity: They have a store where they sell items at very reduced prices. They are currently asking for small kitchen appliances, and bedding. These items may be dropped off in the bin located outside the church library.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
JUNE 18, 2023**



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MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & Mike Ward

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

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DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Family of member Dorothy Jeanne Wilson on her death on 5/28.
 Kyrstyn Kuzas & family on the death of her mother, Debbie Clem on 5/27.
 Family of member Louise (Lucy) Johnson on her death 5/28.
 Chuck Suter & family on the death of his wife, member Sonia Suter on 5/24.
 Family of member Diane Headrick on her death on 5/27.