

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

June 25, 2023

GATHERING

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

Prelude – *Grace Alone* – Tom Fettke

Call to Worship (Romans 14:19)

Let us strive for

the things that bring peace,
and the things that
build each other up.

Opening Hymn 77** - *How Great Thou Art*

Invocation

We come to worship you today and to praise your name. Be with us during this time of worship as we focus our attention on you and how you call us to be your disciples and call us to invite others to join your team. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

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

God's Word for Young Disciples

Scripture Drama Acts 9:1-22

VBS Serve Team

Sermon - *Make Disciples of Everyone*

Pastor Karol Lewis

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response 593** - *Here I Am, Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky

I have heard my people cry

All who dwell in dark and sin

My hand will save

I have made the stars of night

I will make their darkness bright

Who will bear my light to them?

Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night

I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart
I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart
I will hold Your people in my heart

VBS Mission Moment

Offertory - *How Deep the Father's Love for Us* - Larson
(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew.)

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

An Order of Farewell

Pastor: I thank you, the members and friends of First United Methodist Church, for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People: **We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us with your departure.**

Pastor: I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God. I release you from turning to me and depending on me. I

encourage your continuing ministry here and will pray for you and for your new pastor, Howard Pippin.

People: **Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting, we give you thanks for cherished memories and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions. Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Closing Hymn 664** - Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this table take leave.
The supper is ended: may now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
our hungry souls reaching,
shal blossom in action for all humankind.
With grace to incite us, and love to unite us
we work for the kingdom,
God's purpose to find.

With praise and thanksgiving
to God, ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face,
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours
all those of each race.
One feast that has fed us,
one light that has led us,
unite us as one in the life that we share.
Then may all the living,
with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ
as the name that we bear.

Benediction and Choral Response - The Lord Bless You and Keep You - Peter Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.
And give you peace. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you, be
gracious. The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Postlude – Trumpet Voluntary – John Stanley



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and are given:

in honor of Pastors Mike Ward and Karol Lewis;

in honor of Leta Huntington Gramlich's birthday, by her parents, Bill and April Huntington.

Service Music: Summer Choir

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

Making Disciples of Everyone

Making Disciples starts in _____.

God chooses _____, imperfect people.

Jesus offers _____ and _____ not judgement.

God _____ what other might not and _____ who others might not

Though none of us _____ it, Jesus calls all of us to be part of His _____.

B-Begin with prayer (pray for your neighbors)

L-Listen to their story

E-Eat with them

S-Serve them or let them serve you

S-Share your faith story if invited

Questions for Reflection: What is the hardest thing about making disciples for me? What would make it easier. Who is God putting on your heart to make or grow a relationship with?

Questions for Discussion: What criteria or who do you think would make a good disciple. What criteria or who do you think God calls for disciples? How does the grace we see Jesus extend to Paul, impact how we might extend grace to others? Share your faith story or why is it hard to share your faith story?

Memory Verse: Romans 14:19 "So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up." VBS 2023 Memory Verse

Readings for next week: 1 Samuel 16:1-3; Romans 3:21-26; Psalm 13; Mark 9:38-50

CHURCH NOTES

Reception: Please join us on the lawn after the worship service for a small reception to say goodbye to Pastors Mike and Karol and their families.

Pastor Howard Pippin: We are looking forward to welcoming Pastor Howard Pippin and his family to First Church next Sunday. There will be a small reception that day following the service. Due to a family conflict, they will not be able to attend the First Friday picnic on July 7.

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.

First Friday Picnic: The next church-wide picnic will be on Friday, July 7 at 5 p.m. at Water Works. Hot dogs and buns are provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We look forward to seeing you there!

Outdoor Worship Service! On Sunday, July 9, we will worship in the amphitheater downtown by the riverfront. The service will be at 10 a.m. and we will combine with St. John's Episcopal and First Christian. Please be sure to attend and enjoy worshipping with our neighbors outside in a beautiful setting!

Volunteers: On occasion, volunteers are needed for small projects around the church, such as trimming shrubs, weeding, painting, etc. If you are interested, please contact Bob Boltz at rboltz@kent.edu.

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 Christy to let her know so we can add you to the team.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
JUNE 25, 2023**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & Mike Ward

HOSPITALIZED:

Julie Yates – Mercy

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 Scott Hipkins	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.

Family of member Diane Headrick on her death on 5/27.