

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

October 22, 2023

GATHERING

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

Prelude - *Taste and See that the Lord is Good* - D. Wagner

Introit - *I AM the Resurrection and the Life* – John Rutter

Call to Worship

Come, Holy God, draw near.

We long to see you.

Come, God of justice, be present today.

We need your grace in our world.

Come in this hour.

Show us your love.

Opening Hymn 162** - *Alleluia, Alleluia*

Refrain:

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

1. *Jesus is Lord of all the earth.*

He is the King of creation. Refrain.

2. *Spread the good news o'er all the earth.*

Jesus has died and has risen. Refrain.

3. *We have been crucified with Christ.*

Now we shall live forever. Refrain.

4. *Come, let us praise the living God,*

Joyfully sing to our Saviour. Refrain.

Invocation

Holy God, we long to sense your presence and be assured that you have drawn near. Awaken us with your love and grace and show us your possibilities for our lives. Assure us that we are not alone and that you walk with us always. For this we offer you our thanks and praise.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading

Psalm 96:1-9

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous works among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
Honour and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
Worship the LORD in holy splendour;
tremble before him, all the earth.

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.

Children's Anthem - *God Made Me/God Is So Good*

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem - *It Is Well With my Soul* - John Ness Beck

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Refrain:

*It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
(Refrain)*

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

*the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.
(Refrain)*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 9:9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

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

Sermon - Eat

Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response 427** - *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

*Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.*

*In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.*

*From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.*

*The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.*

*O Master, from the mountainside,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
O tread the city's streets again;*

*Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* - Gary Prim
(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

Closing Hymn 453** - More Love to Thee

*More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
On bended knee;
This is my earnest plea:
More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!*

*Once earthly joy I craved,
Sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek,
Give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!*

*Then shall my latest breath
Whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry
My heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be:*

*More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!*

Benediction and Response - *Let Us Share God's Love* -Stan Pethel

Postlude - *Toccata on "Aberystwyth"* - Brenda Portman



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving memory of our loved ones, by Bob and Nancy Green;
in loving memory of her parents, Jack and Deanie Lehner, by Kathy Kuzas.

Service Music: Epworth Choir; Chancel Choir; Bethlehem Choir

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

Jesus sees us.

Jesus saw Matthew

Jesus invites us to follow him

Jesus said come follow me.

Eating together builds relationships

Jesus sat and ate with Matthew and others

Questions for Reflection: How can I really see others? What unique ways can I find to eat with others?

Questions for Discussion: What are some ways our church can practice more table fellowship?

Memory Verse: "13b For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Readings for this week: Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Psalm 1, John 13:3-5

CHURCH NOTES

Potluck Lunch/Charge Conference TODAY: Gather with your friends and family today, after the 2nd service (11:30 a.m.) for a potluck lunch in Wesley Hall. Bring your favorite dish to share! Paper products and drinks will be provided. During the meal Pastor Jon will deliver the State of the Church address followed by our brief Church Conference. Please join us for this time of food, fellowship, and conferencing.

All Hallow's Eve Celebration - This yearly event, for children aged 4 - 6th grade, will take place on Sunday, October 29, during ROCK (5:45 to 7 p.m.). Activities will include dinner, a story, crafts, games, prizes and treat bags. Costumes (non-violent) are welcome. Younger children may attend if accompanied by a parent. Please register as soon as possible so that we can plan for you.

Used Book Donations and Sale: The United Woman in Faith is holding their annual Book Sale in Wesley Hall. On sale will be used adult and children's books, puzzles, DVD's, and more. We are looking for donations of these items from October 30 - November 2. Please bring all donations to the church on these dates and come back for the big sale on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All profits go to a variety of local and national missions.

2024 Altar Flowers: We are taking orders for altar flowers in 2024. The **new cost is \$40** and the church takes care of the ordering and delivery. If you would like to reserve a date, contact Christy Meyers at Ext. 210 or cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com.

Family Promise: Several of our bins are very low again! We have plenty of peanut butter and jelly for the next several months, but are nearly out of ramen noodles (no cups) and Velveeta shells and cheese (no cups.) All donations go in the bin labeled for FP which is by the library.

Christmas For Good Neighbors: Good Neighbors has started their holiday drive in order to provide gift bags for the children they serve. Items they are requesting are winter-themed reading books, coloring books, sticker books, and puzzles. They would like to have any such donations by early November.

NEO5 Brass Quintet: The NEO5 Brass Quintet consists of members of the Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Pops, and the Akron and Canton Symphonies. On Friday, October 27, at 7 p.m. enjoy a variety of music from some of the finest brass players around!

We Are Collecting For: Blessing Box: We're running low and could use canned or boxed goods, ramen noodles, personal hygiene items etc. **For Children's Christmas Items:** play dough, markers, and coloring books.

Christmas Poinsettias: The florist has given us an early deadline, so now is the time to order the poinsettias which will adorn our altar on Christmas Eve. The plants are \$9 each. The list of donors and those memorialized or honored will appear in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Please make your check out to First Church and return it with the order to the church office by noon on Friday, November 3.

Donor _____ Phone _____

In memory or honor of (circle one)

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
OCTOBER 22, 2023



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie	Don Corbett
Bob Ahonen	John & Hilda Gullion
Debbie Amundsen	Millie Keyser
Behrman family	Lee Minier
Jim Bailey	Jack Nitzsche
Bill & Janet Blank	Kathi Sawyer
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Martha Shoults
Larry Brimlow	Ken Tunstall

DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Linda Balmaseda and family on the death of her husband, Cesar.
Family of Mary Beth Milford on her death on 10/18