

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

July 3, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

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Liturgist: Ruth Anne Becker

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WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Praise My Soul, The King of Heaven”

GTG #619

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven
who, like me, should sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise the Maker all your days!

Praise God for the grace and favour
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame;
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
All within me, praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration,
you behold God face to face;
sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise with us the God of grace!

CALL TO WORSHIP

(written by Bruce Prewer)

Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves:
That it is not we who chose Christ,
but Christ who chose us,
That we are not here because of our goodness

but because of Christ's grace,
That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,
but to allow Christ to enlighten us,
That we have not come to be entertained
but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ our Lord calls to his Table: all who hurt and are beaten down by the stresses of life; all who love him and earnestly seek to live in peace with one another; all who repent of their sin and long to follow the call of discipleship. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have failed to love you most of all. We have failed to fully be your church in this time and place. We have sinned against you and each another by things we have done and things we have left undone. We have not loved our neighbors because we have failed to see the Christ in others. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to walk in the light of your grace, and in full obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(a time of silence)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Hear the good news: Despite our brokenness, Christ died for us that we might have life. That proves God's gracious love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:1 – 11, 16 – 20

TIME WITH CHILDREN

“Packing to Travel with Jesus”

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

MESSAGE

“**GO ON YOUR WAY WITH PEACE**”

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

OFFERTORY SONG OF REFLECTION

“Praises Heard Around the World”

(sung in multiple languages; video)

Lord, your love has saved us
Precious blood has bathed us
Now your message takes us
All around the world

Chorus

*Can't you hear them
Hear them singing
The people they're rejoicing
With one voice they are shouting
Singing halle, hallelujah
Praises heard around the world*

To all of your creation
Each and every nation
Sending your salvation
All around the world

Chorus

'Gainst the demons fighting
Holy Spirit guiding
Family we're uniting
All around the world

Chorus

CALL TO GENEROSITY

God, we look at our humble offerings and we think they might not change the world today. But they help us remember. We remember that you are generous. We remember that when we give our money, we mean that we're giving ourselves. We remember that you working in us does change the world, letting Your kingdom, the world as it should be, come on earth. Bless all of these gifts. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, Creator of the universe, Ruler of all nations, Judge of all flesh, you have placed us, your people, in this land made rich with rivers, forests, mountains, and creatures great and small. Here, you set before the founders and pioneers of this nation an opportunity beyond measure to build a realm of justice, peace, and freedom. Here you continue to call your people, freed from the law and baptized into Christ Jesus, to be a sign of your reign in all the world. For such a place, such a vision and such a calling we give you thanks, praying we may ever join afresh the dreams you set before us.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Above all we give you thanks for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ, who sends us into the world to declare the good news of your kingdom to every creature: justice to all peoples, good news to the poor, release for prisoners, sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed.

On the night before he was arrested and sentenced to death by the authorities of his own nation, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you." When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the covenant poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins."

And so we remember again as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We pour ourselves out before you in praise and thanksgiving, a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us. Pour out your Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make Christ known to us in the breaking of this bread, and the sharing of this cup.

Renew our fellowship in him, that we may be for the world his body poured out for the world at this time in this nation, and at that great banquet in the fullness of your new creation where justice flows like rivers, righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, where none shall hunger or thirst, neither shall they learn war anymore. By him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

COMMUNION SONG

"This is My Song"

(video)

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover-leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
Oh, hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
A song of peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG

"Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

TFWS #2184

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now
To make the earth a place in which the kingdom comes
(repeat)

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
Into a world of love, of justice and of peace

The task is ours to do, to set it really free
O help us to obey and carry out your will

BENEDICTION

~ from *A Harvest of Joy, Healing, and Peace: Service Prayers for the 7th Sunday after Pentecost*; written by Rev. Heather A. Moody

Go forth from this place refreshed and empowered to do the ministry to which God calls you: Travel lightly, for you carry within you all that you need. Notice God's presence in simple, everyday experiences. Whenever opportunity arises, labor for the good of all. And the blessing and joy of God, our Creator, Healer, and Life-Giver go with you today and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
accompanist

Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible

Luke 10:1 – 11, 16 – 20

10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.

10:2 He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

10:3 Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

10:4 Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.

10:5 Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'

10:6 And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.

10:7 Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.

10:8 Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;

10:9 cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

10:10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,

10:11 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

10:16 "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

10:17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"

10:18 He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.

10:19 See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.

10:20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."