



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 26, 2020

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer
and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude *Fugue in C major, BWV 531b* Johann Sebastian Bach

The Greeting

The Hymn No. 79 *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* GROSSER GOTT

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| 1. Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in Heaven above adore Thee;
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign. | 3. Lo! the apostolic train
Join the sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the loud refrain,
And the white robed martyrs follow;
And from morn to set of sun,
Through the Church the song goes on. |
| 2. Hark! the loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising,
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising;
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord. | 4. Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee;
While in essence only One,
Undivided God we claim Thee;
And adoring bend the knee,
While we own the mystery. |

The Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: We pause this morning, O God, with heavy hearts.
We live in the midst of great and abiding love,
but also in the midst of deceit and lies.
May we be found faithful in all we do.
May we speak the truth in love
and live lives of love each day.
Too often we seek you in the spectacular and otherworldly.
May we see the many inbreakings of your kingdom
in the everyday, ordinary things of life.
May we be able to answer with a full-throated yes
when asked if we have understood
your teachings and your call. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

When we are not sure how to pray,
or if we are even able to address God in prayer,

the Spirit intercedes for us
with sighs too deep for words.
Know that no matter what, nothing,
absolutely nothing can ever separate us
from God's presence and God's love.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 8: 26-39

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Hymn No. 355

Depth of Mercy

CANTERBURY

1. Depth of mercy! Can there be
mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God his wrath forbear,
me, the chief of sinners, spare?
2. I have long withstood his grace,
long provoked him to his face,
would not hearken to his calls,
grieved him by a thousand falls.
3. I my Master have denied,
I afresh have crucified,
oft profaned his hallowed name,
put him to an open shame.
4. There for me the Savior stands,
shows his wounds and spreads his hands.
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.
5. Now incline me to repent,
let me now my sins lament,
now my foul revolt deplore,
weep, believe, and sin no more.

The Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 29:15-28

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

Sex, Lies, and Jealousy—God is there, too!

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo

If God Be for Us

Georg Frederic Handel

Emily Downey, soprano

If God be for us, who can be against us?
Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?
It is God that justifieth.
Who is he that condemneth?
It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again,
who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us,.

Romans 8:31, 33-34

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

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 that 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.

The Hymn No. 419

I Am Thine, O Lord

I AM THINE

1. I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice,
and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith
and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain:
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.
2. Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord,
by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
and my will be lost in thine. **Refrain**
3. O the pure delight of a single hour
that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend! **Refrain**
4. There are depths of love that I cannot know
till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach
till I rest in peace with thee. **Refrain**

The Benediction

The Postlude

Prelude in C major, BWV 531a

Johann Sebastian Bach

We thank these persons who participated in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Substitute Organist:	Linus Ellis
Vocal Soloist:	Emily Downey
Choir:	Todd Minnich, Sam Cook, Lynn Kotrady
Video:	Rachel Bates, Dan Corcoran

Scripture

Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

God's Love in Christ Jesus

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Genesis 29:15-28

Jacob Marries Laban's Daughters

¹⁵ Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹ Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” ²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³ But in

the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.²⁴ (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)²⁵ When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?”²⁶ Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn.²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.”²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.