



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 25, 2020

The Twenty-First 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

Lord, Speak to Me

Adapted from Robert Schumann

The Welcome

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: God, you are God forever.

**This alone is cause for celebration,
but we also know that we are your people!**

**As we feel your love washing over us now,
may we love you with every part of our being:
heart, mind, body, and soul.**

**We celebrate your love in our lives,
and we ask for your help as we try our best
to boldly share the good news of your love with others.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
who models the way for us. Amen.**

The Hymn No. 500

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.
2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.
3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh,
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

The Psalter page 809 with response

Psalm 90

[The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone. All other responses will be sung by everyone.]

Response:

Ps. 46:1
Alan Luff

God, you are my re - fuge and my strength, a pre - sent help in trou - ble.

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
- 2 **Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**
- 3 You turn us back to the dust,
and say, "Turn back, O mortal ones!"
- 4 **For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.**
- 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass which is renewed in the morning;
- 6 **in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.**

Response

- 7 For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
- 8 **You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
- 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath,
our years come on to an end like a sigh.
- 10 **The years of our life are threescore and ten,
or even by reason of strength fourscore;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.**
- 11 Who considers the power of your anger,
the awesomeness of your wrath?
- 12 **So teach us to number our days
that we may receive a heart of wisdom.**

Response

- 13 Return, O Lord! How long?
Have pity on your servants!
- 14 **Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**
- 15 Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,
as many years as we have seen evil.
- 16 **Let your work be manifest to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.**
- 17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands;
yes, establish the work of our hands.

Response

The Hymn No. 2168

Love the Lord Your God

GREAT COMMANDMENT

9 Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart.

17 Love the Lord, your God, with all your soul.

25 Love the Lord, your God, with all your mind.

Love the Lord, your God, with all that you are.

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:34-46

The Sermon

Simple - But Not Easy

Dr. Matt Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Anthem

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Alan Hovhaness

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

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 its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.
O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home. Amen.

Words by Isaac Watts, 1719

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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. 430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

MARYTON

1. O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.
3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

4. In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.

The Benediction

The Postlude

Tocatta in D minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Singers:	Emily Downey, Regan Sprenkle Todd Minnich, Sam Cook

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Scriptures

Matthew 22: 34-46

The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

The Question about David’s Son

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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