



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 29 2021

Fourteenth 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

Be The Gift of Love

Traditional English Melody

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Call to Worship

Leader: Who may abide in the presence of God?

People: Who may live on God's holy mountain?

Leader: All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

People: All those who speak truth from their heart.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: God of light, we confess that we live
in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness.**

**We honor you with our lips but we have not
served you in our hearts.**

**We are satisfied with human traditions and norms
and avoid your liberating truth.**

**We have confused meekness with weakness,
holiness with social conformity,
and anger with righteousness.**

Forgive us we pray.

**By the power of your word
save us from the prison of our conceit
so that we may serve you with sincere hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, do not despair:

God renews us by the word of truth,
that we might become the first fruits of God's creation.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The Hymn No. 553*And Are We Yet Alive*

DENNIS

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| <p>1. And are we yet alive,
and see each other's face?
Glory and thanks to Jesus give
for his almighty grace!</p> <p>2. Preserved by power divine
to full salvation here,
again in Jesus' praise we join,
and in his sight appear.</p> <p>3. What troubles have we seen,
what mighty conflicts past,
fightings without, and fears within,
since we assembled last!</p> | <p>4. Yet out of all the Lord
hath brought us by his love;
and still he doth his help afford,
and hides our life above.</p> <p>5. Then let us make our boast
of his redeeming power,
saves us to the uttermost,
till we can sin no more.</p> <p>6. Let us take up the cross
till we the crown obtain,
and gladly reckon all things loss
so we may Jesus gain.</p> |
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The Scripture Lesson

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Sermon*And Are We Yet Alive*

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer**The Offertory Solo***The Call*Sam Cook, bass-baritone
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life.
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as Joys in love.

George Herbert, 1633

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. 444

O Young and Fearless Prophet

BLAIRGOWRIE

1. O young and fearless Prophet
of ancient Galilee,
thy life is still a summons
to serve humanity;
to make our thoughts and actions
less prone to please the crowd,
to stand with humble courage
for truth with hearts uncowed.
2. We marvel at the purpose
that held thee to thy course
while ever on the hilltop
before thee loomed the cross;
thy steadfast face set forward
where love and duty shone,
while we betray so quickly
and leave thee there alone.
3. O help us stand unswerving
against war's bloody way,
where hate and lust and falsehood
hold back Christ's holy sway;
forbid false love of country
that blinds us to his call,
who lifts above the nations
the unity of all.
4. Stir up in us a protest
against our greed for wealth,
while others starve and hunger
and plead for work and health;
where homes with little children
cry out for lack of bread,
who live their years sore burdened
beneath a gloomy dread.
5. O young and fearless Prophet,
we need thy presence here,
amid our pride and glory
to see thy face appear;
once more to hear thy challenge
above our noisy day,
again to lead us forward
along God's holy way.

The Benediction

The Postlude

We Thank You, Lord

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and
throughout the week to make this worship possible.*

*The colorful altar flowers today are provided by Mary E. Vetrovec from her garden.
We really appreciate her sharing her bounty & talents with us!*

TIME TO ORDER PECANS!

YES, we are selling our delicious Georgia PECANS from Schermer's again this year! The prices have remained the same as last year - \$12/bag. We are offering: halves & pieces in 16-oz. bags; chocolate covered, dark chocolate covered and cinnamon glazed in 12 oz. foil gift bags. Please order by SEPT. 1st, with delivery around Nov. 1st. Payment can be made at delivery. Thanks for your continued support of this UMW project that enables us to make annual donations to a variety of worthwhile organizations. Please contact the church office to order.

Scripture Readings

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Springtime Rhapsody

⁸ The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.

¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;

¹¹ for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

¹² The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Tradition of the Elders

⁷ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from

the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”⁶ He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷ in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.

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