



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**September 26, 2021**

**Eighteenth 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**

*Jesus Loves Me*

Tune by William B. Bradbury, 1861

## **The Call to Worship**

Leader: If it had not been God who was on our side,

**People: the troubles of our world would have  
swallowed us whole.**

Leader: If it had not been God who was on our side,

**People: the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.**

Leader: Are any among us suffering?

**People: Come and pray.**

Leader: Are any among us cheerful?

**People: Come sing songs of praise.**

Leader: Are any among us sick?

**People: Come and ask for healing.**

Leader: Our help is in our God,

**People: the One who made heaven and earth.**

**All: Call upon God, creator and rescuer.  
God is on our side.**

## **The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Eternal God, you create us and you rescue us.**

**Be here with us now. Help us know  
how much we need you.**

**Teach us that no other power can support us  
like your power.**

**As you share your power with us,  
teach us to be Christ to the world,  
proclaiming your reign for all people.**

**As you lavish your love upon us,  
help us receive that love and offer it to the world,  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**The Hymn No. 415***Take Up Thy Cross*

GERMANY

1. "Take up thy cross," the Savior said,  
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me."
2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.
3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.
4. Take up thy cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

**The Scripture Lesson**

Mark 9:38-59

**The Sermon***Soul Surgery*

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

**The Offertory Prayer****The Offertory Anthem***Is Any Afflicted*

William Billings

Is any afflicted? Let him pray.  
Is any of you merry? Let him sing psalms:  
Singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord.  
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another  
in psalms and hymns and spir'tual songs:  
Singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord.

James 5:13; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

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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. 264**

*Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit*

using alternate tune EBENEZER

1. "Silence, frenzied, unclean spirit! ""  
cried God's healing, holy One.  
"Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it.  
Flee as night before the sun."  
At Christ's words the demon trembled,  
from its victim madly rushed,  
while the crowd that was assembled  
stood in wonder, stunned and hushed.
2. Lord, the demons still are thriving  
in the grey cells of the mind:  
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,  
twisted thoughts that grip and bind,  
doubts that stir the heart to panic,  
fears distorting reason's sight,  
guilt that makes our loving frantic,  
drams that cloud the soul with fright.
3. Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit  
in our mind and in our heart;  
speak your word that  
when we hear it,  
all our demons shall depart.  
Clear our thoughts and calm our feeling;  
still the fractured, warring soul.  
By the power of your healing  
make us faithful, true, and whole.

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**The Benediction**

**The Postlude**

*Postlude on Ebenezer*

Charles W. Ore

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

# Scripture Readings

## Mark 9:38-59

### Another Exorcist

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

### Temptations to Sin

<sup>42</sup> “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup> where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup> “For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup> Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

## James 5:13-20

### The Prayer of Faith

<sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup> you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s<sup>[b]</sup> soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.