



Centenary  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**October 16, 2022**

**Nineteenth 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**

*Adagio on ABERYSTWYTH*

Alice Jordan

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**The Introit**

Ah! think not the Lord delayeth;  
"I am with you," still he sayeth;  
    "do you not yet understand?"  
Look not back, the past regretting;  
on the dawn your hearts be setting;  
    rise and hear the Lord's command.

**The Call to Worship**

Leader: Power and might and majesty belong to God who created and is creating.

**People: Thanks be to God for God's mighty wonders.**

Leader: Like the image of the powerful wind, and heavens as a garment,  
    God's majesty is revealed in all creation.

**People: We look around us at the wonders and marvel  
and the infinite variety and beauty which God has created.**

Leader: Who are we, that God should pay attention to us?

**People: We are God's beloved children,  
the stewards whom God has selected to care for the world. 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 Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Lord, everywhere we look  
we see the imprint of your creative love.  
The wondrous works of nature show your majesty.  
As we gather today to celebrate your love and creation,  
keep us mindful that we are part of that created order,  
meant to be stewards and not destroyers.  
Prepare us to work for you  
in ministries of peace and justice. Amen.**

### The Announcements

### The Prayer for Illumination

### The Psalter pages 841-842

Psalm 119:1-8, 33-40

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

Ps. 119: 45  
Don E. Saliers

I shall walk at  
lib-er-ty, for I have sought your pre-cepts.

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord!
- 2 **Blessed are those who keep God's testimonies,  
who seek God with their whole heart,**
- 3 who also do no wrong,  
but walk in God's ways!
- 4 **You have commanded your precepts  
to be kept diligently.**
- 5 O that my ways may be steadfast  
in keeping your statutes!
- 6 **Then I shall not be put to shame,  
having my eyes fixed  
on your commandments.**

7 I will praise you with an upright heart,  
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

8 **I will observe your statutes;  
O forsake me not utterly!**

*Response*

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes;  
and I will keep it to the end.

34 **Give me understanding, that I may keep your law  
and observe it with my whole heart.**

35 Lead me in the path of your commandments,  
for I delight in it.

36 **Incline my heart to your testimonies,  
and not to gain!**

37 Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;  
and give me life in your ways.

38 **Confirm to your servant your promise,  
which is for those who fear you.**

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread;  
for your ordinances are good.

40 **Behold, I long for your precepts;  
in your righteousness give me life!**

*Response*

**The Gospel Lesson**

Luke 18:1-18

**The Hymn No. 2119**

*Where the Spirit of the Lord Is*

ADAMS

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace;  
where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.  
There is comfort in life's darkest hour;  
there is light and life, there is help and power  
in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.

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**The Sermon**

*Transaction or Transformation?*

Dr. Tim Gerde

**The Offertory Prayer**

**The Offertory Anthem**

*Teach Me, O Lord, the Way of Thy Statutes*

Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;  
And I shall keep it unto the end.

Psalm 119:33

**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. 479

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

ABERYSTWYTH

1. Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last.
2. Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;  
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.
3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in thee I find;  
raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is thy name, I am all unrighteousness;  
false and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.
4. Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;  
let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;  
spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.

## The Benediction

### The Choral Response

Not for us to find the reasons,  
or to know the times and seasons,  
comes the Lord when strikes the hour;  
ours to bear the faithful witness  
which can shape the world to fitness;  
thine, O God, to give the pow'r.

### The Postlude

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

Henry Cesar Malan

Last verse harmonization by David Allen

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***Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning  
by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).***

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

# Scriptures

## Luke 18:1-8

### The Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

18 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup> In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

## *Welcome!*

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

## *Announcements*

**CHILI COOK-OFF – Bring the heat! Sunday, October 23 at Noon.** All chilis AND cornbreads welcome! Stay for lunch and a “halftime” showing of “Facing the Giants”. Wear your favorite jersey to church! Sign up online or downstairs. Questions? katehundley5@gmail.com or mollymonaghan1839@gmail.com.

**THANK YOU! The Serving Committee wants to thank all of you** for your contributions to making Rise Against Hunger such a magnificent, blessed, and sacred time. Your prayers, donations and participation once again worked miracles! What a fun time we had as we became better acquainted with each other while packaging 10,000 meals to help feed God’s hungry children in a third world country. We left Centenary feeling grateful for having had such a worthwhile Saturday morning. Service to others while having joyous fellowship is a winner. We want to give extra thanks to Al, Heidi, and Ruben. They arrived extremely early and remained to close the church after we all had departed. Amazing what can be done for others when we all work together!!!

**UNITED METHODIST FAMILY SERVICES (UMFS)** invites you to tour the new Child and Family Healing Center on their campus at 3900 West Broad Street in Richmond. Members of the UMFS Auxiliary will be on hand to introduce you to ways you can be involved in support of the youths in residence at the treatment center as well as those students who attend the Charterhouse School as day students. Parking is available at the entrance to the building which is located on the far side of the elliptical lawn. Look for the Auxiliary meeting sign.

## *Upcoming Events*

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>October 16</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>	<i>The Chosen</i> - Social Hall
<b>October 17</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	Change the World/RVA
<b>October 18</b>	<b>Noon</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	AA Charge Conference at Reville UMC
<b>October 19</b>	<b>10:00 am</b> <b>7:15 pm</b>	Wednesday Bible Study Choir Rehearsal
<b>October 21</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	Friday Lunch Program
<b>October 23</b>	<b>10:30 am</b> <b>Noon</b>	In-person and Livestream Worship Chili Cook Off