



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 20, 2023

Twelfth 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

Were It Not for Grace
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Hamilton/Mchugh

The Call to Worship

Leader: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

People: God's love flows through our lives!

Leader: This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

People: this is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God.

Leader: Let us rejoice on this day!

People: Lord, we thank you for the blessings you pour on us. Amen.

The Hymn No. 374

Standing on the Promises

PROMISES

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

Refrain:

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**
3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**
4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lord Jesus, Son of God,
your blessings know no boundaries
that faith cannot cross.
Strengthen us to trust in your mercy,
reach out for your healing,
and receive your reconciliation. Amen.

The Announcements

The Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter No. 850

Psalm 133

S T Kimbrough, Jr.
Swedish folk tune



U - nite us, Lord, u - nite us
by your ev - er - last - ing love.

Response

- 1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when we live together in unity!
- 2 **It is like the precious oil upon the head,
running down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!**
- 3 It is like the dew of Hermon
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
**For there the Lord has
commanded the blessing,
life for evermore.**

Response

The Hymn No. 549

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ST. PETER

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.2. With grateful joy and holy fear
true charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and strength
now love Christ in return.3. Forgive us now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well
in Christian holiness. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contentions cease;
be Christ the glory that we seek,
be ours his holy peace.5. Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten Son;
as members of His body joined,
we are in him made one.6. Love can exclude no race or creed
if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all
whose Maker is the same. |
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The Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:10-28

The Sermon

May I Also Be Included?

Dr. Matt Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo

The Lord's Prayer
Taylor Jarrell, soloist

Malotte

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. 2171

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

CHANNEL OF PEACE

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.
and where there is doubt, true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light.
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
3. Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
4. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of our selves that we receive,
and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

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The Benediction

The Postlude

Allegro Maestoso

Handel

Today our organist is Mark Fleisher.

The altar flowers this morning are given by Barry & Jayne Penn Hollar as a blessing for "Back to School" for students, teachers, administrators, support staff, cafeteria workers, community liaisons and all others assisting with this most important work!

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.

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.

Scripture

Matthew 15:10-28

Things That Defile

¹⁰ Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

The Canaanite Woman’s Faith

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Announcements

DID YOU KNOW that just a handful of pecans a day can reduce risk of heart disease and diabetes? Snacking on pecans comes with impressive health benefits, including lowering risk of heart disease and diabetes and helping with weight management. So, get your pecans now! Please place your order by Sept 1. Halves, medium pieces, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, and cinnamon glazed. Still \$12.00 pie bag. To order contact Leah Hundley 804-615-3581 or lchphn@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays at 10:00am. Each week we will look at the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. An email is sent out every Tuesday with the Zoom link and all the details. If you would like to join us, contact the church office to be put on the email list.

Upcoming Events

THIS WEEK

August 21	5:00 pm	Change the World/RVA
August 22	Noon	AA
August 23	10:00 am	Bible Study - Zoom
August 25	10:30 am Noon	Friday Lunch Program AA
August 27	10:30 am	In person & Live Stream Worship