



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 10, 2023

Fifteenth 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.

Prelude

Blessed Assurance

J. Bert Carlson

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome to this community of faith.

People: We come seeking hope and courage for the future.

Leader: Here you will find peace, hope, love and joy.

People: We come weighed down by difficulties in our lives.

Leader: Here you will find Jesus

who will take your burdens on himself.

People: Lord, we come to you this day

in need of your mercy and love. Amen.

Hymn No. 559

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

1. Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.
2. To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, today!
With thy faithful loving-kindness hear thy people as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always.
3. Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.
4. Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.

Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Gracious God, we come this day
seeking courage and hope for the future.**

Our world is in such peril.

Heal these wounds and quiet the words of war.

Help us to be those who

bring peace in our families and communities.

Banish the darkness of doubt and fear;

anoint us with your light and love

that we may spread the good news of your mercy

to everyone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Announcements

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter No. 842

Psalm 119:33-40

Ps. 119:105
Jane Marshall

Your word is a lamp to my feet

and a light to my path.

- 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

- 137 Righteous are you, O Lord,
and right are your judgments.
- 138 **You have appointed your
testimonies in righteousness and in all faithfulness.**
- 139 My zeal consumes me,
because my foes forget your words.

140 **Your promise is well tried,
and your servant loves it.**
141 I am small and despised,
yet I do not forget your precepts.
142 **Your righteousness is righteous for ever,
and your law is true.**
143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me,
but your commandments are my delight.
144 **Your testimonies are righteous for ever;
give me understanding that I may live.**

Response

Hymn No. 402

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
4. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

*Tune © 1989, United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press.
Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731785. All rights reserved.*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:15-20

Sermon

Practicing What We Preach

Dr. Matt Bates

Affirmation of Faith No. 883

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Solo

Give Me Jesus
Todd Minnich

arr. Burleigh

Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

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. 578

God of Love and God of Power

UNSER HERRSCHER

1. God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour
grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
2. We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee;
give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
3. All our lives belong to thee, thou our final loyalty;
slaves are we whene'er we share that devotion anywhere.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
4. God of love and God of power, make us worthy of this hour;
offering lives if it's thy will, keeping free our spirits still.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro maestoso e vivace (Sonata 2)

Mendelssohn

Today our organist is Mark Koontz.

*The altar flowers this morning are given by Florence Clay Bishop
in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Bishop.*

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 18:15-20

Reproving Another Who Sins

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Announcements

FELLOWSHIP AND FRIED CHICKEN - Today after the 10:30 am service. Join fellow pewmates for a picnic style meal. Meat and beverages will be furnished No sign up necessary! All are welcome.

NAME TAGS - New name tags are here! If you had a name tag before, you will see the new one waiting for you. Misplaced yours? Never had one? Just contact the church office and we will get one ready for you!

SMETHIE CIRCLE NEWS - UMW Smethie Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. Join us at 1:00 pm at the home of Leah Hundley. 10227 Wanzer Hill Road. Light lunch provided. Kathy Talley will be our speaker.

PRIDE EUCHARIST | SEPTEMBER 21 @ 6:00 PM. - The Episcopal Churches of Central Richmond will gather at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (815 E Grace St, Richmond) to host a Pride Eucharist. All are invited to participate in this powerful celebration of God's love. We hope you will also join us at the Brown's Island Pride Festival.. For more information about being a part of the Pride Eucharist Choir please contact Scott Hayes at shayes@allsaintsrichmond.org.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRIDE EUCHARIST CHOIR - The Pride Choir will gather at 5:15 PM to rehearse "The Gift of Love" by Hal Hopson (SATB version). Participants are asked to familiarize themselves with the piece before rehearsal and if possible bring their sheet music. All are encouraged to wear their most festive Pride T-Shirt! Please contact Scott Hayes at shayes@allsaintsrichmond.org with any questions.

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

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| September 11 | 5:00 pm | Change the World/RVA |
| September 12 | Noon | AA |
| September 13 | 10:00 am 7:15 pm | Bible Study - Zoom Choir Rehearsal |
| September 15 | 10:30 am Noon | Friday Lunch Program AA |
| September 17 | 10:30 am | In person & Online Worship |