

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY

Being filled and led by the Spirit may take you places you never planned; but the will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you. -Neil T. Anderson



May 15, 2022



WELCOME

PRELUDE *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*
arr. Callahan

CALL TO WORSHIP *Sing Praises to the Lord* Schram
Children's Choir

*Let ev'rything that breathes sing praises to the Lord.
Praise the Lord!*

*The birds in the trees, the bugs and the bees,
the fish in the sea, and you and me!*

*Let ev'rything that breathes sing praises to the Lord.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*

HYMN *O For a Thousand Tongues* no. 57, vs. 1-5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the clean and the unclean, we too easily think we can see from your point of view. We exclude, hold grudges and nurse contempt, all the while hiding ourselves for fear we too would be found wanting. We think we are justified because we are made holy by your love, and we assume holiness means more like us. We forget, or never really knew, that all you touch is holy, and that you created all that is. So when we exclude, we exclude you. When we hold grudges, we hate you. When we show contempt, we are contemptuous of those you love. May we be made holy in truth, loving as you love, clean and unclean alike.

SILENT CONFESSION OF PERSONAL SIN

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God dwells among us, giving to all who believe the repentance that leads to life.

Rejoice in the Lord, for we are a forgiven people.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

SCRIPTURE Psalm 148 (CEB)

Praise the LORD from heaven! Praise God on the heights! Praise God, all of you who are his messengers! Praise God, all of you who comprise his heavenly forces! Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God! You highest heaven, praise God! Do the same, you waters that are above the sky! Let all of these praise the LORD's name because God gave the command and they

were created! God set them in place always and forever. God made a law that will not be broken. Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all you ocean depths! Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke, stormy wind that does what God says! Do the same, you mountains, every single hill, fruit trees, and every single cedar! Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly! Do the same, you kings of the earth and every single person, you princes and every single ruler on earth! Do the same, you young men— young women too! you who are old together with you who are young! Let all of these praise the LORD's name because only God's name is high over all. Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven. God raised the strength of his people, the praise of all his faithful ones— that's the Israelites, the people who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

MUSIC *Created to Serve* Ruth Elaine Schram
Children's Choir

*We are created, created in Christ
to walk in the light.*

We are created, created to love and to serve.

*All the gifts God gives to us,
God gives to us to share.*

*All the gifts God gives to us,
we use to show we care.*

We are created, ...

SCRIPTURE Acts 11:1-18 (The Message)

So Peter, starting from the beginning, laid it out for them step-by-step: "Recently I was in the town of Joppa praying. I fell into a trance and saw a vision: Something like a huge blanket, lowered by ropes at its four corners, came down out of heaven and settled on the ground in front of me. Milling around on the blanket were farm animals, wild animals, reptiles, birds—you name it, it was there. Fascinated, I took it all in. Then I heard a voice: 'Go to it, Peter—kill and eat.' I said, 'Oh, no, Master. I've never so much as tasted food that wasn't kosher.'

The voice spoke again: 'If God says it's okay, it's okay.' This happened three times, and then the blanket was pulled back up into the sky. Just then three men showed up at the house where I was staying, sent from Caesarea to get me. The Spirit told me to go with them, no questions asked. So I went with them, I and six friends, to the man who had sent for me. He told us how he had seen an angel right in his own house, real as his next-door neighbor, saying, 'Send to Joppa and get Simon, the one they call Peter. He'll tell you something that will save your life—in fact, you and everyone you care for.' "So I started in, talking. Before I'd spoken half a dozen sentences, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us the first time. I remembered Jesus' words: 'John baptized with water; you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So I ask you: If God gave the same exact gift to them as to us when we believed in the Master Jesus Christ, how could I object to God?" Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. "It's really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to Life!"

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

HYMN *God, How Can We Forgive* TFWS no. 2169

SCRIPTURE John 13:31-35 (The Message)

When he had left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is seen for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him. The moment God is seen in him, God's glory will be on display. In glorifying him, he himself is glorified—glory all around! Children, I am with you for only a short time longer. You are going to look high and low for me. But just as I told the Jews, I'm telling you: 'Where I go, you are not able to come.' Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other."

MESSAGE *We Are Witnesses - What God Calls Clean*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

King of Heaven, violence is on the rise in Philadelphia with shootings and anger and fear.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Russia has invaded Ukraine and is threatening nuclear war.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Your church, your people are divided, known as judgemental, seen as intolerant.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

The poor are forgotten, taken advantage of, despised or unvalued.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Many teenagers face a crisis of hope and identity and are turning to destructive habits or suicide.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Women in Afghanistan are being oppressed and demeaned. Our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ are being persecuted.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Armed conflicts in Nigeria, Yemen, Myanmar and many other countries in the world leave thousands dead and many more grieving.

By your love, O Lord, through us, conquer this evil.

Throughout this town and country and world, both young and old have hardened their hearts against You, the source of all true love, and many have turned away from the good You have for them.

Grant us the faith, love and courage to overcome evil with good, to spread the message of your love, and to stand firm in the hope of your promises no matter how the nations rage.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING SONG *Lord Most High* arr. Sorenson
Cross Connection

*From the ends of the earth,
from the depths of the sea,
from the heights of the heavens,
Your name be praised.*

*From the hearts of the weak,
from the shouts of the strong,
from the lips of all people,
this song we raise, Lord:
Throughout the endless ages
You will be crowned with praises, Lord, Most High!
Exalted in ev'ry nation, Sov'reign of all creation,
Lord, Most High, be magnified.*

*We will praise and bless Your name, O Lord.
Worship and adore Your name on high!
We will praise and bless Your name, O Lord,
Lord, Most High, Most High!*

Throughout the endless ages,...

*(You may give your offering by text, at umcwc.org,
through the mail, by automated giving through
Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.)*

DOXOLOGY no. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous and giving God, we offer gifts this day as those who have received so much more. You gave yourself to us and asked only for devotion, yet we got distracted by the world. You offered all of creation to meet our needs for food and shelter, yet we decided we wanted more. You offered your love to all, yet we decided some were more worthy and valuable than others. So, you gave us "the repentance that leads to life," and all our giving pales by comparison. Dedicate us, we pray, in Christ's holy name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN *We Are Called* TFWS no. 2172

BENEDICTION

Jesus gave a new commandment: to love one another.

Because Jesus loves us, we should love one another.

Go forth to serve. Go forth to love.

We go with God's love and blessing.

POSTLUDE *Jesus Loves Me!* arr. Calla

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Let us continue to pray for Ukraine.

United by the Holy Spirit, let us pray. Merciful God, we pray for peace as war rages in Ukraine. Shelter all living in fear; protect those seeking refuge in neighboring countries; sustain families separated by the horrors of war; tend to those who are injured; comfort all who mourn their dead. Direct your people into the way of peace. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Compassionate God, as Russia wages war in Ukraine, we pray:
For all in hiding, searching for safety...
For those forced to take up arms...
For all journeying to new lands, leaving behind homes and loved ones...
For children surrounded by confusion and chaos...
For those in Russia who bravely advocate for peace...
For journalists risking safety to report on daily events...
For the difficult work of diplomats, world leaders, and international organizations ...
For all providing welcome, protection, and sustenance to those who have fled...
For medical workers as they attend to the injured...
For all grieving those who have died...
For any other petitions...
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message: Heidi Krug
Message for Growing Christians: Louise Sims
Acolyte: Ryan Largoza (First Service)
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Children's Choir and Cross Connection Director: Mike Muzzo
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, Holly & Todd Grimm, Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, David Maxwell, Brad Rush, Zeke Smith, Cory Smith (leader)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

Daniel Barnitz	Caleb Krug
Michael Barnitz	Heidi Krug
Amy Campitelli	Levi Krug
Paige Campitelli	Kaitlyn Largoza
Adam Clark	Ryan Largoza
Cate Clark	Zachary Lynn
Eric Clark	Nicholas Piccone
Giuliana Ferraioli	Gabriel Shappell Smith
Jake Joslin	Simeon Shappell Smith
Jillian Joslin	Zeke Shappell Smith
Josh Joslin	Eddie Sims
Jailah King	Louise Sims



Evelyn Allen
Stephanie Campitelli
Tim Case
Allen Keller
Brian Krug
Kristi Largoza
Carl Mancini
Kendra Mancini
David Maxwell
Mike Muzzo
Christy Oliver
Abby Osborne
Joan Pratt
Susan Pratt
Jacqui Rothera
Pete Rozea
Brad Rush
Jacqueline Rush
Tony Sims