

A Celebration of Christian Worship

October 18, 2020 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Laity Sunday

Svetlana Morse, Music Director

Prelude: It Is Well with My Soul

Svetlana Morse

Children's Time

Bev Shaw

Call to Worship

L: In the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

P: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name!

L: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever.

P: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and God's greatness is unsearchable.

***Hymn: #451 Be Thou My Vision**

1/ Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2/ Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

3/ Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:5-16

Bev Shaw

Sermon: "A Prayerful Journey"

Lorna Wade, Lay Leader

Hymn of Response: #496 Sweet Hour of Prayer (v. 1,3)

1/ Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul

has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

3/ Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer! Thy wings shall my petition bear to him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless. And since he bids me seek his face, believe his word, and trust his grace, I'll cast on him my every care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Litany for Laity Sunday

L: From the beginning, God entered into covenant with the human family: with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Deborah, Ruth, and Jeremiah.

P: Through baptism, Jesus Christ calls us into the covenant and makes us ministers of Christ's righteousness.

L: All Christian ministry is Christ's work of outreaching love.

It demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion, witness and service, celebration and discipleship.

P: All Christians are called to Christ's servanthood in the world, to the glory of God and for human fulfillment. The Church, as the community of the new covenant, participates in Christ's ministry of grace. It stretches out to human needs wherever service may convey God's love and ours.

L: In our ministry of servanthood is this ultimate concern:

P: that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator, and that all Christians are called to minister in deeds and words that heal and free. Amen.

Passing of Peace

Announcements, birthdays and anniversaries

Story of Gratitude

Sharing Our Gifts and Tithes

(For online giving, please visit <https://livingfaithumc.net/online-giving/> or download tithe.ly on your smartphone.)

Living Faith United Methodist Church

***Doxology #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to your service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Hymn: #3104 Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

1/ Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

2/ 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear; and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

Refrain: My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Saviour, has ransomed me. And like a flood his mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.

3/ The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. *Refrain:*

4/ The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine, But God who called me here below, will be forever mine.

***Benediction**

Postlude: Like a River Glorious

Svetlana Morse

Call to Worship, Prayer of Dedication: *The Book of Worship* 1965, ALT Litany for Laity
Sunday: adapted from *The Book of Discipline* 1992

**Please stand as you are able.*



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