

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 14 September 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements (*To help us connect, please sign the attendance
pad in your pew.*)

As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,
so God seeks and saves the lost.

Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,
so God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.

As a father receives a returning wayward son,
so God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.

Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received,
**Let us receive and welcome and rejoice over one another
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**
(*Ruth Duck, U.S.A., 20th Cent., alt.*)

Praise Choruses: 2041: "Thou Art Worthy"
3093: "Fill My Cup, Lord"

*Opening Prayer**:

We are reluctant, O Author of Love, to set aside our hurt,
our anger, our disappointment.

**Heal us with your tender touch,
that we might be cleansed of all unclean thoughts,
all schemes of revenge, all hope of vindictive retribution.
Open our eyes to the power of love,
shown to us in the unselfish sacrifice
of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(*Michael J. O'Donnell, U.S.A., 20th cent.*)

*Opening Hymn: 103: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

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PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 355 (*Verses 1 & 5 only*)

"Depth of Mercy"

First Lesson; Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalter: 746

(*Response: Send deliv'rance down from Zion, we shall rejoice!*
Tune 688, first line) Psalm 14

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

*Hymn of Preparation: 341 "I Sought the Lord"

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:1-10

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith:

889 "Affirmation from 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1:15; 3:16"

Children's Time

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

THANKSGIVING

The Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

The Offering/Offertory

*The Gloria Patri: Page 70

*Offering Prayer: 588 "All Things Come of Thee"

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*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 115 (*Tune: 700*) "How Like a Gentle Spirit"

*Dismissal with Blessing**:

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage.

hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;

strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak;

help the afflicted; honor everyone;

love and serve the Lord,

rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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