

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 4 October 2020

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost/World Communion Sunday

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements

Greeting**:

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
And the earth shows God's handiwork.
May the words of our mouths and the meditations
of our hearts
Be acceptable in your sight, O Lord,
Our Rock and our Redeemer. (*Psalm 19*)

*Opening Prayer: 556 "Litany for Christian Unity"

*Opening Hymn: 529 "How Firm a Foundation"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 600 (*Verse 1 only*) "Wonderful Words of Life"

First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalter: 750 (*Response 1*) Psalm 19

Second Lesson: Philippians 3: 4b-14

*Hymn of Preparation: 398 "Jesus Calls Us"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:33-46

(2)

Sermon: "Clarity"

Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 12ff)

(All are welcome)

(*Note: Please make these substitutions:*)

The Invitation^^:

Let's be clear. It is Christ who is host at this table....
You qualify because you choose to respond.....
Come to the feast!

The Prayer of Confession^:

Almighty God, from the ends of the earth
you have gathered us around Christ's holy table.

We come to feast together.

Have mercy on your church, troubled and divided.

Renew us and make us one. Amen.

(*Andy Langford, U.S.A., 20th Cent.*)

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 413 "A Charge to Keep I Have"

*Blessing^^:

The world is waiting.

And we will go to help it along.

Who is calling?

It is God. God is calling in many voices.

**God is calling us to help the world, to restore the harmony
and to strengthen the diversity.**

That's God out there, asking us to meet our challenges
to be living, breathing people of God.

(3)

**And we will respond. We go into the world
to live our lives and respond to God's calling.
Amen**

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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