

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 13 June 2021

Third Sunday after Pentecost

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements

Praise Choruses: 2164 "Sanctuary"
2152 "Change My Heart, O God"

Greeting**: 275 (*Spoken*) "The Kingdom of God"

Opening Prayer**:

May the warm winds of heaven blow softly on our house.

May the Great Spirit bless all who enter here. Amen.
(Traditional Cherokee Nation Prayer)

Opening Hymn: 384 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Call to Confession^:

We have to be honest about what has been and what is.

**Not for guilt, not for shame, but for honesty;
that is why we confess.**

The miracle of new life comes when we are vulnerable
and without our masks.

Let us declare our lives.

Let us pray.

The Corporate Prayer of Confession^:

God, we haven't been all we could be. We have "settled for."

Settled for:

Mistreatment of ourselves, others, and our world.

Believing that "this is all we can expect."

(2)

Thinking that "that's just the way things are."

Acting like we're in this alone.

Forgive us, God. Prod us to be aware of what is promised,
what is possible. Strengthen us to respond with all that we are.

Words of Assurance^:

It is strange, but sometimes even in the middle of the not-so-pretty
places something starts to change.

**Even when we don't do so well with one another or our world,
God keeps working.**

We can be healed. We can celebrate even when things aren't
perfect. God keeps working.

God keeps working.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 388 (*Verse 1 only*) "O Come and Dwell
in Me "

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalter: (*Insert: Alternate leader and people*) Psalm 20

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

Hymn of Preparation: 2158 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Sermon: "*As they were able to hear it...*"

Affirmation of Faith: 883 "A Statement of Faith of the United
Church of Canada"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

The Peace: Let us offer one another

(3)

signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

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

Offering/Offertory

Doxology: 92 (*Verses 1,4, 6*) "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Prayer of Dedication^:
Let us pray.

**All that we have and are we place before you, our Creator.
In this worship you have seen what our lives have been
and what they may be.
Receive us now as a people dedicated to doing your will
for the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn: 524 "Beams of Heaven as I Go"

Closing Prayer^:
We have done the things we set out to do. We have experienced more than we thought we would.

We have sung, we have prayed, we have listened, and we have heard. We have been touched, and we have touched.

(4)

If we are set on fire to spread the Good News --- to serve and love others --- we are ready to leave.

We are ready.

Go in peace.

Amen.

Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

Going Forth

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