

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**10:30 a.m. Sunday 17 October 2021**  
**Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost/Laity Sunday**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

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

\*Praise Choruses: 2176 "Make Me a Servant"  
2149 "Living for Jesus"

\*Greeting: *Litany for Laity Sunday*

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

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

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.

**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.**

In our ministry of servanthood is this ultimate concern:  
**that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator,  
and that all Christians are called to minister**

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**in deeds and words that heal and free. Amen.**  
*(Adapted from The Book of Discipline 1992, Par. 101-07)*

\*Opening Prayer\*\*:

Almighty and everlasting God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
you created us for yourself,  
so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you.  
**Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose  
that no selfish passion may hinder us  
from knowing your will,  
and no weakness from doing it.  
In your light may we see life clearly  
and in your service find perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen,**  
*(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)*

\*Opening Hymn: 558 "We Are the Church"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: 393 "Spirit of the Living God"

First Lesson: Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Psalter: *(Insert: alternate leader, people)* Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c

Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:1-10

\*Hymn of Preparation: 77 "How Great Thou Art"

\*Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Sermon: "Serf"

Affirmation of Faith: 885 "A Modern Affirmation"

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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

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

Offering: *Anyone is welcome to come forward now to join our  
fellowship and/or rededicate oneself to Christ (Pages 37-38)*

\*Gloria Patri: 70 "Glory Be to the Father"

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving: 587 (Tune 463) "Bless Thou the Gifts"

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

### SENDING FORTH

\*Closing Hymn: 430 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*Blessing\*\*: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord makes his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you;  
**the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace. Amen.**  
*(Numbers 6:24-26)*

\*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

\*Going Forth

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