

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. 31 October 2021**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

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

\*Greeting\*\* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gate of heaven.**

The hour is coming, and now is,  
when true worshipers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth,  
for such the Father seeks to worship him.

**Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,  
and God's courts with praise!  
Give thanks to God, bless God's name!**  
*(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)*

\*Praise Choruses: 2197 "Lord of All Hopefulness"  
2171 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

\* Prayer of Confession\*\*:

O God, source of all that makes life possible,  
giver of all that makes life good:  
We gather to give you our thanks,  
yet we confess that we have often failed  
to live our thankfulness.

**What we have we take for granted,  
and we grumble about what we lack.  
We have squandered your bounty,**

(2)

**with little thought of those who will come after us.  
We are more troubled by the few who have more  
than by the many who have less.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving,  
and teach us to make gratitude and sharing  
our way of life;  
through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*(Paul J. Flucke, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)*

\*Opening Hymn: 127 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: 601 "Thy Word Is a Lamp"

First Lesson: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Psalter: *(Insert: Alternate leader and people)* Psalm 127

Second Lesson: Hebrews 9:24-28

\*Hymn of Preparation: 643 "When Love Is Found"

\*Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

Sermon: *"Integrity"*

Affirmation of Faith: 882 "The Apostles' Creed,  
Ecumenical Version"

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.**

(3)

**THANKSGIVING**

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

Offering/Offertory

\*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 422 "Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love"

\*Dismissal\*\*  
Serve your God with patience and passion.  
Be deliberate in enacting your faith.  
Be steadfast in celebrating the Spirit's power.  
And may peace be your way in the world. **Amen.**  
(*Glenn E. Rainsley, U.S.A., 20th Cent.*)

\*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

\*\*THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP

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