

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 18 June 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day

ENTRANCE

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

*Greeting**:

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.** *(Ruth Duck, U.S.A., 20th Cent., alt.)*

*Praise Choruses: 3142 "I Love the Lord"
3158 "Go to the World"

*Opening Prayer^:

Almighty God, you of infinite mercy:
**Look not upon our wickedness, but draw away
our weakness from sin, and guide us in what is right;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn: 159 UMH "Lift High the Cross"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: Page 6 UMH

First Lesson: Genesis 18:1-15

Psalter: *(Insert, alternate leader, people):* Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

(2)

Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-8

*Hymn of Preparation: 418 UMH "We Are Climbing Jacob's
Ladder"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:35-10:23

Sermon : "*More complicated*"

Affirmation of Faith: 883 UMH "A STATEMENT OF FAITH
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

Father's Day Prayer** : *(Response: We pray to the Lord)*

For our fathers, who have given us life and love,
that we may show them respect and love, **R**
For fathers who have lost a child through death,
that their faith may give them hope,
and their family and friends support and console them, **R**
For men, though without children of their own,
who like fathers have nurtured and cared for us, **R**
For fathers, who have been unable to be a source of strength,
who have not responded to their children
and have not sustained their families, **R**
**God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things.
Bless these men, that they may be strengthened
as Christian fathers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**
(Book of Blessings, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

*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 UMH "Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow."

*Prayer of Thanksgiving^:

Blessed God, we worship you in awe and thanksgiving.
By your Holy Spirit increase our usefulness in your service.
In your tender mercy forgive our sins.
Lift up those who are weighed down, troubled, suffering.
**Lead us all, O Lord, in your righteousness,
and make our way straight before us.
We offer ourselves and our gifts to you,
in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer: 895 UMH

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 584 UMH "Lord, You Give
the Great Commission"

*Blessing**:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. (Romans 15:13)

"Extinguishing of candles, postlude, and going forth _____"

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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