

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday 13 August 2023**

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements:

\*Greeting\*\*:  
Come, now is the time to worship.

**Now is the time to spring forth in faith.**

Give thanks to our God.

**Sing of God's praise and glory.**

Seek the Lord.

**Rejoice in God's presence.**

Come, now is the time to worship.

Praise Choruses: 3018 "Creation Sings"

3101 "Love Lifted Me"

\*Opening Prayer\*\*:

Steadfast God of faith and grace, call to us now.

**Carry us out of our fears**

**and doubts of your saving grace**

**and constant presence.**

Walk with us, O God, as we renew our faith,

discern your call in our lives,

and journey forth as disciples of Christ. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: 98 "To God be the Glory"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Introduction to the Word\*\*:  
Seek God's presence continually –  
in life, in worship, in the word of God spoken this day.

**Listen for the message of God's good news.**

First Lesson: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Psalter: (Insert: Leader/**People**) Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22,45b

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Second Lesson: Romans 10:5-15

\*Hymn of Preparation: 566 "Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love"

\*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 886 "The World Methodist Social  
Affirmation"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

\*The Peace\*\*:  
How beautiful are the feet of those who bring  
the message of Christ's love.

**In beauty and joy, let us share that message  
as we exchange signs of peace and love  
with one another.**

**THANKSGIVING**

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

Offering/Offertory

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

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving, Confession, and Intercession^^:  
Almighty and everlasting God, you are one God  
and have made us to be one people.

**You bless our lives day by day,**

**and we come before you to sing our praises to you.**

By our actions and words

we have prevented the sharing of the good news.

**Pour out anew the gift of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may be filled with fresh vision**

**to share your saving power**

**with all the nations of the world.**

We remember our friends, and the friends of others,

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who are possessed by the demons of the present day.

**Show your mercy to those who labor  
under the weight of sickness  
that seeks to destroy the body, the mind, and the spirit.  
Give hope to the hopeless, and help us to be  
friends to the friendless.  
Hear us as one voice, one people,  
and accept our gifts and ourselves as your disciples,  
your ambassadors,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 341 "I Sought the Lord"

\*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.** (*Glen E. Rainsley, U.S.A., 20th Cent.*)

**\*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude**

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\*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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