

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
10:30 a.m. Sunday 3 September 2023
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Labor Day Sunday

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

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

*Greeting: 646 "Canticle of Love"

*Opening Prayer^:

We confess that the circle of love is broken
whenever we cannot see eye to eye,
whenever we cannot link hand to hand,
whenever we cannot live heart to heart
and affirm our differences.

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive all who have sinned
against us.**

Through God's grace we are forgiven,
by the mercy of our Creator,
through the love of the Christ,
and in the prayers of the Spirit.

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Glory to God! Amen. *(Miriam Therese Winter,
U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)*

*Opening Hymn: 62 "All Creatures of Our God and King"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

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

First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15

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

Psalm 105:105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Second Lesson: Romans 12:9-21

(2)

*Hymn of Preparation: 408 "The Gift of Love"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 16:21-28

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 880 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

"A Prayer for All Workers"^^:

**O Lord, you have bound us together
in this bundle of life;**

**Give us grace to understand how our lives depend
upon the courage, the industry,
the honesty and integrity of our fellows;
that we may be mindful of their needs,
grateful for their faithfulness,
and faithful in our responsibilities to them;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**
Reinhold Niebuhr, With One Voice, alt.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION(Page 12ff)
(All are welcome)

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 378 "Amazing Grace"

*Closing Prayer: 412 "Prayer of John Chrysostom"

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

^The United Methodist Book of Worship, Copyright (C) 1992 The
United Methodist Publishing House

^^The Wideness of God's Mercy, Vol. 2, Jeffery W. Rowthorn,
Seabury Press, 1985