

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 16 June 2024

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day

ENTRANCE

Announcements

Greeting**: In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in rest shall be your strength.
(Isaiah30:15b-c)

Praise Choruses: Hymns by Charles Wesley

Act of Congregational Centering**: *(Silent prayer may follow
each petition)*

As we come together, let us settle into stillness...
Slowly, ever so slowly, we center our minds and our hearts...
Let your cares and your weariness fall away...
We are one with the universe...
We are one with the sun and the stars...
We are one with the One who is Mystery,
who created the heavens and the earth...
O marvelous Mystery!
I am one with the One who is Mystery,
the One who created me, and loves me,
and whose Spirit lives in me. **Amen.**
(Miriam Therese Winter, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

Opening Hymn: 528 "Nearer, My God, to Thee"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

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

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalter: *(Insert, alternate leader and people)* Psalm 20

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

(2)

Hymn of Preparation: 128 "He Leadeth Me "

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 883 "A Statement of Faith of the United
Church of Canada"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

Prayer of Confession and Absolution:

**Dear Lord, as we come closer to facing the deep problems in
our land and in
ourselves, things we have turned away from even in church,
show us how
Jesus taught never to stop with blame or despair, but always
opened a better
way to live in your love. Your joy in our return is the light
for each of us, and
the reason we care, and trust, and learn everything that
matters. Amen.**

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/Offertory

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving**:
Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift,

(3)

**teach us to render to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you, not with our lips only,
but with our whole lives,
turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days
into a living sacrifice to you;
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)

The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn: 710 "Faith of Our Fathers"

Closing Prayer:

Bless all fathers among us.

Teach us to learn from them the truth;

Go past our own experience, into the greater community
of all parents,

and use us to work your wonders, honoring, and sharing,
and guiding, and patiently teaching the lessons all children
need to learn, each in their special way.

**Help us be improvers of schools, and homes, and all
circumstances of family life.**

**Teach us how to welcome and forgive and retrain all who
have gone wrong, all who have fallen ill, all who have less
than they need to prosper.**

Bring us together, as Jesus brought the children
into the center of all worship and learning, all gathering together.

Amen

Extinguishing of Candles, Postlude, and going forth

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