

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST AUGUST 16, 2020

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

The Prelude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *arr. D. Lowe*
Kay Wildman, Church Organist

Welcome and Announcements

*Opening #71 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *Neander*
Matthew Smith, Music Director

*Call to Worship

Like doors opened wide, welcome all who gather here,

God’s hands are outstretched, extending mercy to all.

Like many grains brought together in one loaf,

God’s love binds us as one, making us living grace for all.

Like a persistent mother refusing to be dismissed or denied,

God’s voice cries out, calling us to justice and right relationship with all.

Like a party for the outcast, the foreigner, and the stranger,

God’s heart gathers us into a joyful house of prayer for all.

Let us worship God, whose love is for all!

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

A Call to Worship written by Jennifer and Todd Pick, in The Abingdon Preaching Annual 2020, Nashville: Abingdon Press, © 2019

Songs of Praise “Bind Us Together” *Gillman*
“Make Us One” *Cymbala*

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

A Reading from the Old Testament Genesis 45:1-15

A Reading from the Psalter Psalm 133:1-3

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters

dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

For there, the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

A Reading from the Apostles Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

*A Reading from the Holy Gospel Matthew 15:10-28

*Response #419 “My Faith Look Up to Thee” *Palmer*

The Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer – OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Offertory Kay Wildman, Church Organist

The Message “Joseph: Overcoming a Painful Past”
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

*Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God’s forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

*Song #393 “Blest Be the Tie” *Fawcett*

*Spoken Benediction

The Postlude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
arr. J. Walther

Kay Wildman, Church Organist

*Please stand if able

THE LORD'S SUPPER – We celebrate the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) on the first Sunday of each month and special occasions. All persons of faith, regardless of age, race, or church affiliation, are welcome to partake of the Table of the Lord. In solidarity with our brothers and sisters, we use only non-alcoholic grape juice. Please cup your hands to receive the sanitary communion wafer and juice sealed in small containers. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Call Pastor Ivan to receive homebound communion delivery.

BELIEVER'S BAPTISM – We practice “believer’s baptism,” which is the immersion of a person in water – regardless of age – who receives Jesus Christ as his/her personal Savior and publicly professes faith to walk the Jesus way. The Council schedules baptisms on most Sunday mornings throughout the year. If you would like to follow Jesus in baptism, then come to the front during the last song or speak with the Minister.

American Baptist Church USA – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico.

www.abc-usa.org



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