

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 17, 2021

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

WELCOME

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Let your minds ponder the manifold works of God.

PEOPLE: **The earth is full of God's creatures.**

LEADER: Moon and stars sing the glory of the Eternal One.

PEOPLE: **We depend on God for the gift of life.**

LEADER: We gather to worship and praise the God of all creation.

UNISON: **We long to find meaning and purpose for our days.**

OPENING HYMN: "All Creatures of Our God and King" (#15 Red)

Written by Francis of Assisi, circa 1225. Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUE. Public Domain.

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and let us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams,
Pale silver moon with softer gleam!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 2

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse 3

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

In the name of Jesus Christ who came not to be served, but to serve, and to give life itself for us, we approach Your Word with awe. We live in a different time but in the same world in which Jesus ate and drank, lived, and died. We share the same baptism and have the same opportunity to know Your love and serve You. Help us dare to believe and trust and live our days returning Your love through the neighbors near and far who need to know Your care.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Come, all who are weak and tempted, for Christ knows the trials you face and has triumphed over them. Bring your sins before God, that a right relationship may be restored.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come before You God with heavy hearts. We have not served You as we should. We have put ourselves and our own needs first and Your needs and the needs of others last. Forgive us for our thoughtless words and deeds. Restore us with Your grace and mercy. Remind us that Your forgiveness is readily available with Jesus as our advocate. Restore us to right relationship with each other and with You. Hear our silent petitions. ...

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus Christ was numbered among the transgressors to bear our sins, pouring out life and facing death on our behalf, that we might be accounted righteous. Praise God for the saving activity of Christ, who came not to be served, but to give up life as a ransom for many.

HOLY SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 53:4-12, Mark 10:35-45

ISAIAH 53:4-12

⁴ Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our

transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. ⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. ¹¹After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

MARK 10:35-45

The Request of James and John

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." ³⁶ "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. ³⁷ They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." ³⁸ "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" ³⁹ "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.

⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority

over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

SERMON: "The Great Servant"

PASTORAL PRAYER 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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN

UNISON BENEDICTION

God has chosen us to be servants to our neighbors. With reverent submission we will seek to do God's will. There is glory in humble tasks done in God's name. God is strengthening all of us as loyal servants.

CLOSING HYMN: "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" (#462 Red)

Author: Fanny Crosby (1869). Tune: NEAR THE CROSS (Doane). Public Domain

1) Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream,
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.

2) Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star
Shed His beams around me.

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.

3) Near the cross! O lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadow o'er me.

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.

4) Near the cross! I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever;
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river.

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The Altar flowers today are sponsored by John and Chasity Foerster in Honor of their 25th Wedding Anniversary, which they will celebrate on October 19. We wish them a very Happy Anniversary!