

Mentor United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

September 30, 2018

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The liturgical color is green, signifying life and growth in the Christian church.

GATHERING

* **Postlude** "Scherzo/Toccata on 'Come, Thou Font'" Frederick Steffen

* *Members of the congregation stand if able.*

Altar flowers are presented
in appreciation of Amy Bender
for her huge contribution to the church.

If you would like to order flowers in memory of loved ones, to celebrate an anniversary, or offer them to the Glory of God, please contact Kathy Fellows at 440-255-5899.



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Phone (440) 255-3496
www.mentorumc.org

Prelude "Evocation on 'Finlandia'" Frederick Steffen
Amy Bender, organist

Lighting of the Candles **Presentation of God's Holy Word**
Please sign and pass the attendance pad that you find at the end of each pew.
If you are joining us for the first time today, please complete the blue sheet.

Welcome & Announcements

* **Call to Worship** (11:00) Rev. Beverly Wrobel

Leader: Our hearts are lifted up toward God.

People: God created all that is!

Leader: We celebrate that great love of God.

People: God gifted us with God's only son, Jesus the Christ.

Leader: Rejoice and be glad today!

People: Our hearts and spirits praise God for all God's blessings. Amen.

* **Prayer** (unison)

Lord of light and hope, be with us this day as we have gathered to hear your word. Help us open our hearts to the commandments to love, even when loving is difficult. Give us the courage to be people who will commit their whole lives in your service. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

* **Opening Hymn 89** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” HYMN TO JOY

Baptism (11:00 see insert)

Anthem 9:00 “Rejoice in the Lord Always” Richard W. Gieseke
Children’s Choir

11:00 “We Are Called” arr. Mark Hayes
Chancel Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading New Testament page 699 Matthew 22:34-40
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Wesleyan Way: Faith That Matters Rev. Kurt Landerholm

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, it isn’t easy for us to follow the commandments of loving. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors. But we have allowed misunderstanding, fear, hatred, and prejudice to cloud our spirits, turning them away from those who need our love. We place a test before you, asking that you prove your love to us, or we threaten not to believe in you. Please forgive us for this foolishness and stubbornness. Give us the courage to be people who will care for others. Let us dedicate our lives in your service, always aware of your awesome love for us, and in doing so, find our real purpose and meaning in life. This we ask in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

* **Hymn 453** “More Love to Thee, O Christ” MORE LOVE TO THEE

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory 9:00 “Everywhere I Go” Natalie Sleeth
Children’s Choir

11:00 “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” Craig Courtney
Chancel Choir

* **Doxology** UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THANKSGIVING

* **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

SENDING FORTH

* **Hymn 389** “Freely, Freely” FREELY, FREELY

* **Choral Benediction**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

(11:00) The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Jacob Scott Bencar born June 18, 2018
Son of Joseph and Gretchen Bencar

The Pastor Addresses the Parents:

Joseph & Gretchen, on behalf of the whole church I ask you, do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races?

Joseph & Gretchen will you nurture Jacob Scott in Christ's Holy Church, that by your teaching and example he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself, to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

The Pastor Addresses the Congregation:

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

Response: **We do.**

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child and his parents, now before you in your care?

Response: **With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this family with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Pastor: Jacob Scott Bencar, I baptize you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Pastor: Members of the household of God, I commend this child to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

Response: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we pledge to surround you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the Mentor United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**