

The liturgical color is green for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Prelude in Classic Style" Gordon Young
Amy Bender, organ

WELCOME 9:00 Don Humphrey, 11:00 Chris Fournier, liturgists

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Don't rely on your own understanding.

It is hard to trust when so much is unknown; when we can't see the next step; when the way isn't clear.

All things are possible for the one who has faith.

It is hard to have faith when religion seems like empty promises; when prayers seem unheard; when there is no answer for suffering.

Happy are those who find trust and wisdom, who have faith and seek understanding.

Lord, we believe. Help our unbelief.

***OPENING HYMN** "This Is My Father's World" UMH 144

OPENING PRAYER

Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

ANTHEM 9:00 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" arr. Lloyd Larson
Laurie Babcock & Karen Nemelka, duet

11:00 "Then Sings My Soul" Choral Setting by Mary McDonald

SCRIPTURE Psalm 19:1-6, p. 390

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mystery and wonder, we bring our doubts to you. We confess that all too often, we have allowed doubt to overcome faith. We have turned away when our questions became too hard or too painful. We have preferred easier, smaller imitations of the truth to the life and faith you desire for us. We have sought refuge in certainty. Forgive us, we pray. Lead us to a heartfelt belief that is unafraid of doubt, that welcomes mystery, that trusts in you. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

** Congregation invited to stand if able*

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL 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.

FAITH IN ACTION

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY 9:00 "Just As I Am" arr. Mary McDonald

11:00 "Like a River In My Soul" Tim Osiek

***DOXOLOGY #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!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN OF CENTERING** "Hymn of Promise" UMH 707

Hymn History: The words and music to this hymn were written by Natalie Sleeth. She was born in Evanston, Illinois in 1930. She began to study the piano at the age of four. Natalie went on to Wellesley College where she earned a BA in music theory in 1952. She married Rev. Ronald Sleeth, a United Methodist Minister and Professor of Homiletics at several seminaries. The couple was living in Denver, Colorado when Ron developed cancer. Natalie composed this hymn shortly before he died. Ron requested that it be sung at his funeral in 1985. It was published in 1986. Natalie was inspired by a poem of T. S. Eliot which had a phrase "in my beginning is my end." She used those words to express the hope of God's promises. This popular hymn is found in the hymnals of the United Church of Canada and the United Christ of Christ as well as the United Methodist hymnal. Natalie Sleeth died, like her husband, of cancer in the year 1992.

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1:1-5, p. 1

MESSAGE "Doubt & Faith I: *Is There a God?*"
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

HYMN OF MISSION "We Walk By Faith" TFWS 2196

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SUNG RESPONSE** "Go Now In Peace"

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.

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POSTLUDE

"The Heavens are Telling"

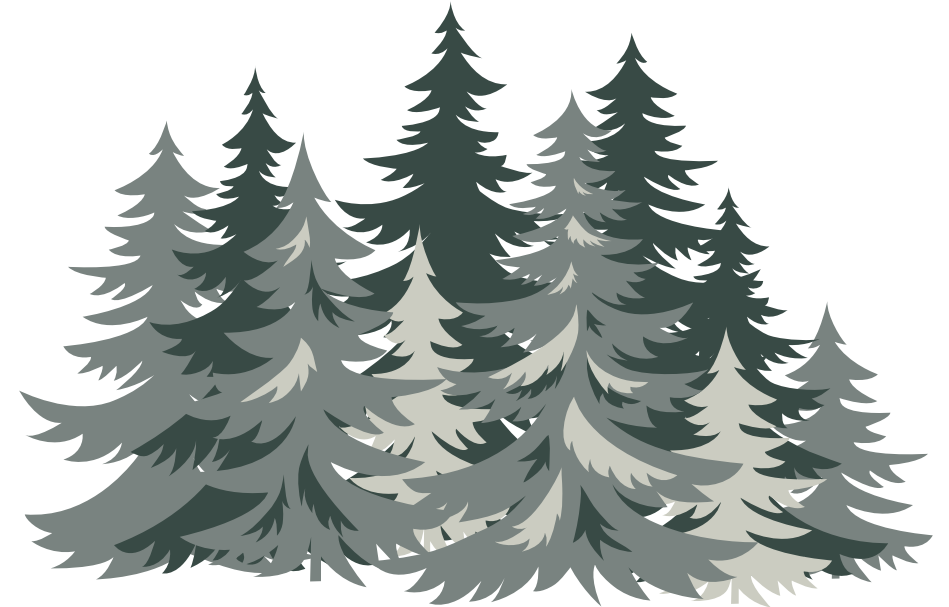
B. Marcello

*Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance
from Adam Hamilton worship resources for this series*

Altar Flowers are presented by Kim & Dana Ludwig
In Memory of Gloria & Jack Meyer, Parents & Grandparents,
and Grandparents Helen Meyer and Howard & Fanny Ulch, and Jack Ulch.

Opening September 29th:
For flowers, please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485

WRESTLING WITH
DOUBT
FINDING FAITH




MENTOR

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Traditional Worship

September 8, 2024