

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

July 18, 2021

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST // ONLINE SERVICE

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Liturgist: Debbie Parker

[CC] = closed-captioned

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

OPENING SONG

For All the Children
(Virtual Choir; video; [CC])

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ—members of God’s family, by grace.

We are brothers and sisters, and they, who belong to God and one another from all time and places.

There are no outsiders here among us, no one has any special status or bragging rights.

For we have been brought together by the redeeming love of Jesus, whose embrace of all made in the image of God is wider than we can imagine.

Let’s join together in worship!

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:11 – 22

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:30 – 34, 53 – 56

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Training Wheels

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

MESSAGE

“A STRONG FOUNDATION”

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

OFFERTORY SONG

Patricia Hammer
instrumental

CALL TO GENEROSITY

Holy God, you love us so deeply that you pursue us relentlessly. You sent your son Jesus into the world that we who were far off would be brought near to you by his blood. We offer our gifts to you, knowing we can never outgive you, never balance the equation. You don’t desire balance, no quid-pro-quo, only that we find the peace you desire for us, whose foundation and whose cornerstone is Christ alone. In that holy name, we pray. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Draw the Circle Wide
(Apex High School Chorus; video)

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide

No one stands alone we'll stand side by side
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
(Repeat)

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still
Let this be our song, no one stands alone
Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
(Repeat)

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
No one stands alone we'll stand side by side

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still
Let this be our song, no one stands alone
Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide
(Repeat)

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

We leave this place as members of God's own family, brothers and sisters, and they who are one through the blood of Jesus Christ. Together, we are breaking down walls of injustice and building the foundation of a holy dwelling place where God lives by the Spirit. Therefore, go out with joy and confidence to love and serve the world, for we do not go alone! Amen.

Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible

Ephesians 2:11 – 22

2:11 So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" --a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands--

2:12 remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

2:14 For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

2:15 He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,

2:16 and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

2:17 So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near;

2:18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,

2:20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

2:21 In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;

2:22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Mark 6:30 – 34, 53 – 56

6:30 The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

6:31 He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.

6:32 And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

6:33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.

6:34 As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

6:53 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.

6:54 When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him,

6:55 and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was.

6:56 And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.