



Centennial United Methodist Church

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Thanks
GIVING

WE ARE GRATEFUL



November 22, 2020

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 22nd, 2020 – 10:00am – ZOOM, Facebook & YouTube

Reign of Christ/Stewardship/Thanksgiving Sunday: Year A

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (in unison):

What mighty praise belongs to You, O God, for Your acts of love and faithfulness toward us! In Your mercy You hear our prayers, You forgive our sins, You provide for our needs.

From one end of the earth to the other, You inspire worship and praise! Even nature celebrates Your goodness. We, too, would offer our praise and thanksgiving for Your mercy and Your faithful love toward us. Receive our adoration, our confession, our thanksgiving. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit make Your presence known among us that we may hear Your Word and know Your will. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The world is filled with the glory of God, and we say,

Thank you!

The hills and valleys are filled with color, and we say,

Thank you!

The vines and trees are filled with fruit, and we say,

Thank you!

Our tables are overflowing with food, and we say,

Thank you!

Our life is filled with love of family and friends, and we say,

Thank you!

We fill this house of God with our voices, saying,

Thank you!

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O God, as we enter into this service of thanksgiving and praise. **AMEN**

HYMN:

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UMH 526

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison):

Gracious Creator, you have given us so much, but too often we take those gifts for granted, or as something to which we are entitled. You call us to live in caring community, but too often we place our wants and needs first, with those of others a distant second. You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us, but we are worried that there may not be enough, and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing.

For all the times when we mistreat and misuse Your gifts, for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves, forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

God is a gracious giver. God is gracious in forgiveness. God calls us to new patterns and new life. We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God! **AMEN.**

HYMN: Let All Things Now Living

TFWS 2008

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison):

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison):

God of all creation, Thank you for the wonderful things you have made. Thank you for the universe full of stars and planets. Thank you for our world, full of life. Thank you for making each one of us. Thank you for loving each one of us. Take these gifts we now offer back to you. May they be used to the glory of your name. We offer you ourselves and all the gifts you have blessed us with. Take us and use us to share your love with the world. AMEN.

PRAYER OVER PLEDGE CARDS (in unison):

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving. These cards represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. The pledges which we make on them are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place. May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over, so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us. May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities. May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering, it is us on the table, living sacrifices to you. AMEN.

DOXOLOGY: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Dave Holland

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians...

27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit,[a] striving together as one for the faith of the gospel 28 without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. 29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, 30 since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Leader: The Word of God
People: Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL LESSON:

JOHN 15:1-17

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to John the 15th chapter, beginning with the 1st verse...

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. 9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other.

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ

SERMON:

"Fruitfulness & Excellence"

Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez

CLOSING HYMN:

When We Are Living

UMH 356 (vs. 1,2,4)

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING:

Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which Jesus is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which Our Saviour is to bless God's people. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and to give shape to God's Kin-dom.

Thanks be to God! AMEN.

GOING FORTH

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Pastor: Rev. Uziel Hernández Martínez

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Administrative Assistant: Milka Rivera

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Reign of Christ/Stewardship/Thanksgiving Sunday November 22nd, 2020 Hymns

What a Friend We Have in Jesus UMH 526

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.

Let All Things Now Living TFWS 2008

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

His law He enforces: the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

When We Are Living UMH 356 (vs. 1,2,4)

When we are living it is in Christ Jesus
And when we're dying it is in the Lord
Both in our living and in our dying
We belong to God we belong to God

Through all our living we our fruits must give
Good works of service are for offering
When we are giving or when receiving
We belong to God we belong to God

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain
When sensing beauty or in love's embrace
Whether we suffer or sing rejoicing
We belong to God we belong to God

Across this wide world we shall always find
Those who are crying with no peace of mind
But when we help them or when we feed them
We belong to God we belong to God

We belong to God we belong to God

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: *Mae Foster, Henrietta Day, Art Huenkemeier.*

At Home: *Micaela Serrano, Aida Bejesus, Cleo English, Carol Waxler, Lee Magnuson, Aylin, Fredy & Eugenio Mejia.*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Nancy O'Leary, Keith Sodergren, Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Jonathan Garcia, Maynard Wibom, Rev. Bettye Mixon, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Jerald Grady, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Silvia Duran, Pat Nelson, Ellen Dean, David Russ, Wayne Russ, Pastor Uziel, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Dave Holland, Ivan Hernandez, Idan John, Jennifer Martin.*

BIRTHDAYS

11/25 Milka Rivera

11/25 Nathanel Rivera

11/28 Joseline John

Joys & Concerns

Our joys and concerns are from last weeks service and any emails since:

Lori Doll's niece Isabella and her two roommates and Isabella's boyfriend and his two roommates all tested positive for covid-19. They all are attending a college in Milwaukee.

Karen Russ is concerned for everyone this Thanksgiving holiday. If you are going to be getting together with your family, please be safe.

Carol Risenhoover's future son in law Mike tested positive for covid-19. Her daughter Jennifer and their three boys are waiting for their test results

Tom Faeth Miller (Gyl Faeth's husband) passed away this week. Tom's in-laws were Dean and Lillian Faeth, long time members of Centennial.

Sharon Sodergren suffered a severe case of vertigo and went to the OSF emergency room. She was given medicine and is feeling much better.

Marlene Wibom's friend Marcel had her gall bladder removed, then got an infection, fought covid-19 and was suffering from pancreatitis. She passed away into God's arms this week.

Erica Kessler's daughter is a leader at All Saint Catholic Academy and because of covid-19 the school is in danger of closing down. Erica's grandson attends the school.

Kyle (Dave Holland's friend) who had a brain aneurism a while ago is now moving around and responding to people. He has a very long way to go, but there is some hope.

Brandon (Dave Holland's 20 year old friend) is still battling covid-19 after a few months.

Rose and Rueben Medoza from our second service are still struggling with health issues.

Fredy Mejia from our second service had a wisdom tooth removed this week.

We hope you will worship with us again.

Due to COVID-19, our physical building and office is closed but our mobile office is open Tuesday – Thursday - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. You can call 779-444-0369, or email: Centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com if you need any assistance.

When you need to reach Pastor Uziel in the case of emergency, please contact him at 224-723-7003 or - centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com



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