

# Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

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Rev. Auderine Rochet, Pastor

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**May 7, 2023**

# CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 7, 2023 – 10:00am

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A

\*Please stand as you are able.

## GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

What Wondrous Love Is This  
from William Walker's Southern Harmony (1835)  
arr. by Anna Laura Page

## INTROIT:

Come, Now is the time to Worship

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CENTERING WORDS

Christ, the living stone and cornerstone of our faith, is building us into spiritual houses and a holy priesthood. Let us open ourselves to the master builder.

## OPENING PRAYER:

**Merciful God, our refuge and our strength, train our hearts on the words of your Son: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." Feed our souls with your spiritual milk, and build our very lives into spiritual houses that neither famine nor storm can shake the foundation of our faith. In the name of the master builder and the living stone, we pray. Amen.**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Once we were not a people.

**Now we are God's people.**

Once we ate food that did not satisfy.

**Now we drink the spiritual milk of our Lord.**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## \*OPENING HYMN:

How Firm a Foundation

UMH 529 vss 1,2,5

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Loving Savior, Shepherd with the voice we know, be with us when we stray. For we often hear the voices of strangers and follow them to dry pastures and dark valleys. We forget your voice of love and begin to feel small and lost. We fear that we will not have enough to go on, much less have a surplus to offer others. And yet you know us by heart and by name. Call us once again. Restore our souls. Walk ahead of us on the right paths, and we will follow you. Remembering your voice, we pray. Amen.**

*Moment of Silence*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God and place your faith in Christ. Make your petitions known and the one who is faithful will answer.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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:

Erica Kessler

Wayfaring Stranger  
*Traditional American Folksong*

## \*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

## OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

**God of overflowing abundance, you feed our spirits with spiritual milk and nourish our souls with heavenly food. You are our fortress and our rock when the snares of this world threatened to overwhelm us. In gratitude for your mercy and your many blessings, we offer you our gifts and our ministries, that a wounded world might know your grace. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

*(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")*

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

1 Peter 2:2-10

***A Reading from the First Letter of Peter....***

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup> you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." <sup>7</sup> Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," <sup>8</sup> and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

**SERMON:**

“The Little Stone Path”  
Dave Holland

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

We Are the Church

UMH 558 vss 1,2,5

**\*BENEDICTION:**

Once we were not a people.

**Now we go as God’s people.**

Once our souls were parched from thirst.

**But now we go satisfied, fed by God’s spiritual milk.**

Once our hearts were troubled.

**Now they rest secure.**

**GOING FORTH:**

Erica Kessler

Standing In the Need of Prayer  
*African-American Spiritual*

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**Pastor:** Rev. Auderine Rochet

**Liturgists:** CMUMC ministers

**Pianist:** Erica Kessler

**Bulletin:** Lora Doll

**Social Media:** Dulce Maciel

**Power Point:** Janie Kellermann

# Announcements

May 7, 2023

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION:**

Wednesdays

1st Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.
- Studying the Book of John

2nd Bible Study: will resume on Wednesdays at 6:00pm date to be announced.

- Wednesdays
- With Pastor Audrey in Spanish, 6:00 pm. In person at the church.

**NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please send any new announcements to the church office email [centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com](mailto:centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com) to have it posted on our Sunday bulletin. Preferable two weeks prior or the Thursday before Sunday.

**ALTAR FLOWER CHART:** We have a new flower chart, please select a date to provide flowers if you would like to. The arrangements will be between \$25-30 make your check to Centennial UMC and put flowers in the memo line.

**Good Samaritan Fund.** Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated.

**Pentecost Sunday is May 28, 2023.** Please wear red on that Sunday in celebration of Pentecost.

## **Taste of Centennial**

One of the things that was lost in the Pandemic was the Taste of Centennial. We are exploring the feasibility of bringing the event back. Members sharing their varied ethnic and cultural backgrounds through food is an important part of this event but there are more roles to fill to make this possible. In order to bring this back we would need commitments from other groups to help with set up, clean up, assistance to those attending with directions, seating and beverages for example.

Without the additional support the Taste of Centennial will not be possible. There are sign-up sheets at the church office counter. If you are interested in the possibility of the event returning and helping with any of the tasks needed to be successful, contact: Milka Rivera at 1(815)397-2771

The worship team for the Spanish service has practice Saturdays at 1:00pm.

Volunteers needed to help with the children's ministry. Assist Dave during Sunday School. We need volunteers for Sundays.

## **\*\*PRAYER LIST\*\***

**At W. Willows:** *Art Huenkemeier.*

**At Home:** *Carol Risenhoover, Carol Waxler, Pat Nelson, Aida DeJesus.*

**Undergoing Treatment/Rehab:** *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Jeff Palmer, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera, Linda Gentry.*

### **BIRTHDAYS**

5/8 Gordy Blaisdell

5/9 Kim Grieves

5/11 Reynaldo Barrera

5/11 Rocio Barrera

5/11 Robert Brown

5/12 Samantha Claire Kinsey

5/12 Allison Renfro

5/12 Antonio Serrano

### **Joys and Concerns**

**1. Carol Risenhoover** has been transferred to Alden Debes for rehab. If all goes well she should be able to return home on May 29. Right now she has a pick line so she can continue to receive antibiotics due to an infection in her leg. Please send your love and prayers to her as she continues to heal. We all hope her situation is finally coming to an end.

**2. Pam Herriot gave thanks for Ellen's life.** It was nice to be at her Memorial and hear all the wonderful stories about how Ellen touched many lives. Especially when her daughter Teresa expressed that at this time of sorrow they have joy for the new baby that is coming to the family this year.

**3. Grace Palmer** requested prayers for her family back home in Sudan. There is fighting still going on and her family is not safe. She asked we keep them in prayers. Also, her aunt's daughter lost a baby. She requested prayers for her as well. We will pray for them.

**4. Dave Holland** lifted up **Bret Fielder's** mother and family in prayer. The funeral for Bret took place last week but prayers are requested for the mother and family.

**5. Joseline John** requested prayers for a her neighbor who gave birth prematurely and the baby did not make it. We will keep her and her family in prayer.

**6. Pam Sanders** shared a joy. She saw that Jolena came out in the news because she did well on her track team. Congratulations Jolena!

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

[Pastor.audrey@ymail.com](mailto:Pastor.audrey@ymail.com)



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