

Riverside United Methodist Church

The Tenth Sunday of Pentecost • August 2, 2020 • 9:30 AM

**** The people will rise in body or spirit.**

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Daniel Kuhn, piano

Call to Worship

****Opening Hymn**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

UMH 400

1 Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2 Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

****Invocation**

Gathering the Community

Exchange of Peace

THE WORD

Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24 (CEB)

Brothers and sisters, we ask you to respect those who are working with you, leading you, and instructing you. Think of them highly with love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are disorderly. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone. Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else. Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Don't suppress the Spirit. Don't brush off Spirit-inspired messages, but examine everything carefully and hang on to what is good. Avoid every kind of evil. Now, may the God of peace himself cause you to be completely dedicated to him; and may your spirit, soul, and body be kept intact and blameless at our Lord Jesus Christ's coming. The one who is calling you is faithful and will do this.

Special Music

Let My Prayer Rise Up from Holden Evening Prayer

M. Haugen

Pastoral Prayer

**Gradual

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

UMH 465

1 Holy Spirit, Truth divine,
dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light,
wake my spirit, clear my sight.

2 Holy Spirit, Love divine,
glow within this heart of mine;
kindle every high desire;
perish self in thy pure fire.

**Gospel Reading Luke 18:1-8 (CEB)

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: A reading from the Gospel of Luke

All: Glory to you, O God.

Jesus was telling them a parable about their need to pray continuously and not to be discouraged. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him, asking, 'Give me justice in this case against my adversary.' For a while he refused but finally said to himself, I don't fear God or respect people, but I will give this widow justice because she keeps bothering me. Otherwise, there will be no end to her coming here and embarrassing me." The Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. Won't God provide justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he be slow to help them? I tell you, he will give them justice quickly. But when the Human One comes, will he find faithfulness on earth?"

One: Living Spirit, Living Word

All: Thanks be to God!

**Response

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

UMH 465

3 Holy Spirit, Power divine,
fill and nerve this will of mine;
grant that I may strongly live,
bravely bear, and nobly strive.

4 Holy Spirit, Right divine,
King within my conscience reign;
be my Lord, and I shall be
firmly bound, forever free.

Sermon

Puzzled: *Prayer Changes Things?*

Rev. Keith A. Turner

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

And now, with the confidence of children of God, we are bold to pray the prayer Christ has taught us, saying:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Hymn during Communion

Near to the Heart of God

UMH 472

1 There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God. **R**

Refrain
O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

2 There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God;
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God. **R**

3 There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God. **R**

****Prayer of Thanksgiving**

SENDING

****Closing Hymn**

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

UMH 462

1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
and to take him at his word;
just to rest upon his promise,
and to know, "Thus saith the Lord." **R**

Refrain
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

3 Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy and peace. **R**

4 I'm so glad I learned to trust thee,
precious Jesus, Savior friend;
and I know that thou art with me,
wilt be with me to the end. **R**

****Benediction**

Sending Music

Daniel Kuhn, piano

Announcements this Week

Tuesday, July 21; 9:00AM – Bibles & Bagels (West Side Park)

Thursday, July 23; 8:00AM – Thursday Morning Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
10:00AM – Woodcarvers and Crafters (Fellowship Hall)