

Astoria First United Methodist Church
June 6, 2021

Second Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

Kristin Hammond

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Frances Gunn

CENTERING MUSIC

“Be Thou My Vision”

Kristin Hammond

WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Michael

CALL TO WORSHIP

James Cook

Who is my mother and who are my brothers and sisters? Look around you, and you will see them. They are not always the people you grew up with. They are the people who have joined the journey to learn more about God and the ways of God’s people. They are the people who pray through the night for the safety of someone else’s child or for the healing of someone else’s loved one. They are the ones who offer a cold cup of water to people considered outcast. They do so in the name of Christ. Who are my brothers? Who are my sisters? Where is my family? Jesus said, “Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Michael

OT SCRIPTURE READING

“1 Samuel 8:4-20”

James Cook

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, “Behold, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.” But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”

So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him. He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. And he

will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day.”

But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, “No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Kristin Hammond

PSALTER READING

“Psalm 138”

James Cook

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me. The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor Michael

UNISON SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

James Cook

Lord, forgive us when we see your miracles all around us and still doubt your power, presence, and love. Forgive us when we treat this world and each other with careless indifference or with malice. You, who have created the most wondrous things from the smallest of particles, can create in our hearts confidence and hope. From our lives you can fashion the most delightful miracles that can serve you through acts of mercy and kindness. Free us, Lord, to receive your blessings and, having received them, to find the numerous ways in which we can serve you. Heal our wounded hearts. Hear our cries. Come to us and bring us home. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. **AMEN**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE**James Cook**

Hope in God, dear friends. We know the One who listens to our prayers is the God who loves us. The One who knows each of us better than we know ourselves, is the One who forgives us. This is indeed good news for us. No need to wait let all *rush into God's gracious embrace*, knowing that God will walk with us even when we stumble. And even when the answers in prayer we desire, are not the same as we hope will unfold.

God's Life-Giving Spirit will remain beside us, and continue to affirm us, even when it seems everyone and everything around us leaves us feeling torn down. Therefore, in the strong Name of Christ our Lord and in the penetrating touch Christ's Spirit reaching into recesses of our heart to heal our deepest wounds, rise up as God's Resurrected people to know, you are forgiven.

AMEN**NT EPISTLE READING*****"II Corinthians 4:13-5:1"*****James Cook**

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR BEST GIFTS TO GOD**Pastor Michael**

We have come to give praise to God and to say thank you for all that God has given us. As an expression of unwavering and constant gratitude for all we have been provided and all that we have received to share with others, let us bring our gifts before God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION**HYMN OF PREPARATION***(vs1-4)***Congregation*****"Take My Life and Let It Be"*****UMH#399****GOSPEL LESSON*****"Mark 3:20-35"*****Pastor Michael****SERMON*****"We Are One In The Family; We Are One In The Lord"*****Pastor Michael****JOYS AND CONCERNS****Mary Frances Gunn****PASTORAL PRAYER****Pastor Michael**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Michael

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN

Celebrating Holy Communion

(Please remember the communion elements of the bread and juice will be provide in a sealed container to be received individually.

BENEDICTION:

Pastor Michael

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome to our friends from the Warrenton UMC as they join us for worship.

**We still need volunteers for liturgist each week.
Please call Sue Hicks or Mary Frances Gunn if you wish to help.
If you want to provide special music – let Mary Frances know.
We now have recordings of the worship services available as a link.**