

Astoria First United Methodist Church
June 13, 2021

Third Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC **Kristin Hammond**

ANNOUNCEMENTS **Mary Frances Gunn**

CENTERING MUSIC *“Meditation on Beach Spring”* **Kristin Hammond**

WORDS OF WELCOME **Pastor Michael**

CALL TO WORSHIP **Pam Johnson**

The Holy One, defender of the poor and needy, calls us to gather now. We come, thankful to be a part of this family of faith. God knows us well and calls us by name. We hear our name and respond to God’s call. The love of Christ urges us on.

OPENING PRAYER **Pastor Michael**

OT SCRIPTURE READING *“1 Samuel 15:34 – 16:13”* **Pam Johnson**

The Lord said to Samuel, I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” And the Lord said, I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me whom I declare to you.”

Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem, and he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. The Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature. *“For the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”* And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.” And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Sonatina in A Minor”
by J. Benda*

Kristin Hammond**PSALTER READING***“Psalm 30”***Pam Johnson**

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! May the Lord send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion! May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans! May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the Lord fulfill all your petitions! Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**Pastor Michael****UNISON SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION****Pam Johnson**

Holy God, you call us to live in mystery, to walk by faith. Yet we long for plans with goals and schedules. It's hard to live by faith. You call us to place our trust in you, to live according to your direction. Yet we want life to make sense from a human point of view. It's hard to live by faith. You call us to feel the mystery of life, to marvel at the power of your love. Yet it's not easy to accept your promise that everything old has passed away. It's hard to live by faith. Forgive us, holy maker of reality. Forgive us for playing god instead of accepting our humanity.

AMEN**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION****WORDS OF ASSURANCE****Pam Johnson**

Fear not, for our creator, the loving maker of all reality, forgives us, and redeems us from violence and oppression. God sows the good news in tiny seeds, inviting us to tend the soil of community, and marvel as they grow. In the name of Jesus, who is the Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. **AMEN**

NT EPISTLE READING*“2 Corinthians 5:6-17”***Pam Johnson**

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about

outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

For the love of Christ *compels us, drives us, urges us on, and inspires us*, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ***Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.***

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 ***“How Firm a Foundation”*** **Congregation**
(vs 1,2,4,5) **UMH#529**

(Projected on Screen by Power Point)

We ask the congregation to please read (or hum) along as the piano plays

GOSPEL LESSON ***“Mark 4:26-34”*** **Pastor Michael**

SERMON ***“Books and Covers”*** **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

BENEDICTION: **Pastor Michael**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

There will be an Ad Council Meeting following worship today.

**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.**