

Astoria First United Methodist Church

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Frances

CENTERING MUSIC

Kristin Hammond

WELCOME

Pastor Michael

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lorel Bresko

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; Seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Michael

SCRIPTURE READING *Philippians 1:21-30*

Lorel Bresko

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Trust & Obey”

Kristin Hammond

UNISON PRAYER FOR CONFESSSION

Lorel Bresko

It seems we cannot decide, Gracious Lord. We say we will live to serve others but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, at least, for those who need it, but surely, not us. Forgive us, O God of Peace, instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of continual complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of groaning, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and to everyone we meet may we reflect the kingdom of God.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Lorel Bresko

In Jesus' parable, the Landowner goes out searching for laborers again and again. In the same way God comes searching for us again and again, so that not one of us will be lost at the end of the day. No matter how late the hour is for you, God's love will supply the forgiveness and salvation that you need. Therefore, in the name of the Great Landowner, I announce to you that God has chosen to forgive you and to call you one of his own. **AMEN!**

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

Pastor Michael

SERMON

“And Justice for All”

Pastor Michael

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mary Frances

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.

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.](#)
