

**Astoria First United Methodist Church**  
*18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

*October 4, 2020*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mary Frances**

**CENTERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Michael**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Stephen Morden**

The heavens shout out the glory of God! The universe declares God's work! We hear no voice or speech. Yet the word is heard in all the earth! The word of the Lord reaches to the end of the world! Our Lord and God, we always offer you our thanks and praise. The word of the Lord is perfect! God's word revives the soul! The decrees of God never fail! Our hearts rejoice! The word of God shines clear! Our eyes are enlightened! The word of the Lord endures forever! Blessed be God's holy name!

**OPENING PRAYER**

**Pastor Michael**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Philippians 3:4b-14*

**Stephen Morden**

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"One Bread One Body"*

**Stephen Morden**

## **UNISON PRAYER FOR CONFESSSION**

**Stephen Morden**

No matter how righteous we imagine ourselves to be, Lord, your perfect word reveals our imperfections all too clearly. No matter how hard we strive to fulfill the requirements of your law, we always fall short. We have forgotten that righteousness and perfection come not from rules and regulations but from faith. We have ignored the truth that your righteousness comes from faith. Open our eyes to see that all we have accomplished is nothing compared to knowing Christ as our Lord. Let us count everything as loss, that we might gain heaven and be found blameless in Christ. In the name of the Savior we pray. Amen

## **MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Stephen Morden**

Take heart; have faith. The goal is in sight. Press on to take hold of it, as Christ has taken hold of us. Have no fear; leave the past behind. Reach out for what lies ahead, for the prize, for the life to be found in Christ Jesus.

## **GOSPEL LESSON**

*Matthew 21:33-46*

**Pastor Michael**

## **SERMON**

*“You talkin’ to me?”*

**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.*

## **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

### **CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Remember to have your bread and juice ready)*

**Pastor Michael**

## **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.](#)**

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