

Astoria First United Methodist Church
November 14, 2021

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
*(*please stand if you are able)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Kristin Hammond

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SAFE SANCTUARY MOMENT

**Mary Frances Gunn and
Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

CENTERING MUSIC

“This is My Father’s World”

Kristin Hammond

WORDS OF WELCOME

Jane Hill, D.M. Retired

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(If you are able, please stand) (Read responsively)*

Pam Johnson

L: Not one stone will be left on stone.

P: We worship our Rock and our Salvation

L: Beware that no one leads you astray

P: We worship our source of wisdom and truth

L: When all seems lost, this is just the beginning of the birth pangs.

P: We are here to worship the Word that endures and the hope that is born among us.

***UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

Pam Johnson

O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald’s urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OT SCRIPTURE READING

“1 Samuel 2:1-10”

Pam Johnson

Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. “There is no Holy One like the LORD, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. The LORD kills and

brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and on them he has set the world. "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail. The LORD! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed."

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Presto" from "Sonatina in C"

Kristin Hammond

by Fritz Spindler

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Jane Hill, D.M. Retired

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (congregation)

Pam Johnson

O God, source of all that makes life possible, giver of all that makes life good: We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jane Hill, D.M. Retired

The Lord God is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and true, showing mercy to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and granting pardon. Amen.

THE EPISTLE "Hebrews 10:11-25"

Pam Johnson

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full

assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR BEST GIFTS TO GOD **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

***DOXOLOGY** **Congregation
UMH #95**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

HYMN OF PREPARATION *(all verses)* **Congregation**
“Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary” **FWS #2164**
(We ask the congregation to please read (or hum) along as the piano plays)

GOSPEL LESSON **“Mark 13:1-8”** **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

SERMON **“Is it ok for me to be here?”** **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

JOYS AND CONCERNS **Mary Frances Gunn**

PASTORAL PRAYER **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

LORD’S PRAYER **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom (kin-dom) 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, (kin-dom), the power, and the glory, forever.
AMEN

HYMN *(all verses)* **Congregation**
“How Firm a Foundation” **UMH #529**
(We ask the congregation to please read (or hum) along as the piano plays)

***BENEDICTION** **Jane Hill, D.M. Retired**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

We have been blessed these past few weeks to have Jane Hill bring our pastoral message and in the coming weeks we have wonderful worship leadership planned.

Ron Crandall a retired elder will bring our message **November 21.**

November 28 - we will be lay led and begin Advent with a video *All the Good A Wesleyan Way of Christmas.*

December 5 - retired elder **Dave Kinman** who was once our pastor will bless us with his message.

December 12 - **Ron Crandall** will be with us again.

December 19 - the last Sunday of Advent we will again be lay led and finish the Advent Video *All the Good.*

One of the best ways we can continue to uphold Pastor Michael is to attend worship in his absence.

**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.**