

The liturgical color is green, signifying life and growth in the Christian Church, it is the sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE	"Evocation on FINLANDIA" Amy Bender, organ	Frederick Steffen
WELCOME		Lydia Smith, Liturgist
*CALL TO WORSHIP	<p>Here in this space, we wear our hearts on our sleeves. There is no use in filters or walls. This space is an authentic space. This space is a brave space. For when it comes to God, we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room. So come into this space with your hurt and your joy, your prayers and your dreams. All of God’s children are welcome here. Let us worship Holy God.</p>	
*OPENING HYMN	"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"	UMH #340
OPENING PRAYER	<p>God of creation and re-creation, God of rainbows and covenant, God who hears the cries of the oppressed, who delivers the captives and makes a way in the wilderness, we come to worship you. We bring our full selves, our joys and sorrows, longings and grief. Turn our pain into compassion and empathy for ourselves and one another when we ask, "Where does it hurt?"</p> <p><i>Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School</i></p>	
ANTHEM	9:00	"All to Us" arr. Mary McDonald Charter Members Men's Choir
	11:00	"There Will I Be" Craig Courtney Chancel Choir; Melanie Lyttle, Karen Nemelka, Willie Dycks, Larry Fram, soloists
SCRIPTURE READING		1 Samuel 1:9b-18
KIN-DOM SIGNS		
OFFERTORY	9:00	"By Our Love" arr. Mary McDonald
	11:00	"Open Prayer" Pepper Choplin
*Congregation invited to stand if able		

*DOXOLOGY #94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS
RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION
All: I’ve been meaning to ask...
One: How are you? What has your year been like?
Did you know that I have been thinking of you?
All: I have been meaning to ask...
One: Is your mom okay? Did your sister find a job?
Did you ever think we’d still be here?
All: I’ve been meaning to ask...
One: Did it get easier? Did the grief subside? Were you ever able to sleep at night?
All: I’ve been meaning to ask but I haven’t—
One: Because it’s hard. Because I want to say the right thing.
Because I’m not sure what you need.
All: I’ve been meaning to ask, so I’m sorry for my silence.
One: Forgive me. Show me where it hurts.
All: Let’s start again.
One: Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking where it hurts. Take a moment of silent prayer to think of the people in your world, in your lives, who may need you to reach out and ask. Give their names to God. <i>Silent prayer.</i>
Trusting that God hears all things, we say together:
All: Amen.
WORDS OF FORGIVENESS
So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION
RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
One: On my best days,
All: I believe that God is there—standing in the sun with me, laughing a contagious laugh and cheering me on.
One: On my hardest days,
All: I believe that God is there—standing in the rain with me, holding me up and sharing in my grief.
One: No matter where I go— in joy or in loss, in pain or in love, in heartache or in gratitude—
All: I believe that God is there, leaning in, noticing where it hurts, and carrying me through it.
One: And so, I believe we are called
All: to care for each other as God cares for us.
One: On your best days in the sun and on your worst days in the rain,
All: I will do my best to be there for you too. Amen.

HYMN OF CENTERING "A Covenant of Grace" see insert

SCRIPTURE Mark 5:21-34

MESSAGE I've Been Meaning to Ask: Where Does it Hurt? Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

*HYMN OF MISSION "Help Us Accept Each Other" UMH #560

*FAITH IN ACTION

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SONG RESPONSE "Go Now In Peace"
Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.
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POSTLUDE "Allegro" from Symphony I William Boyce



Altar Flowers are presented by
Debi, Dale, Mallory Lewis, Jason, Tiffany, Colin and Teagan Hughes
In Loving Memory of Tyrel Lewis,
Son, Brother, Uncle

Sept 10: Pulpit Flowers were presented by Kurt Hinkley
In Loving Memory of Wife, Linda

October 22 and 27 are open for Flower dedications.
For flowers please call Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485

For information on events, missions, and other church news check out the *Weekly Update* which is available in the Narthex & in the Information Hub

MENTOR
United Methodist Church
8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060
440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

Fill out a
Connect Card
online.



Traditional Worship
September 17, 2023

I've been meaning to ask...



"Seen" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
Digital Painting with mixed media collage inspired by 1 Samuel 1:1-18.

where does it hurt?

where are you from?

what do you need?

where do we go from here?

MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH



Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Dick Anderson,
Luke Sanvido, Star Bruno, David Fell, Norma Ickes

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradrich

The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,

Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler

Salida Woods - Doris Sturm

University Manor - *Virginia Gilman*

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons

Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua

Tapestry - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Mission Moment

Walk to End Alzheimer's: Register online today for the 2023 Lake/Geauga
Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, September 23, 2023. For questions,
contact team leader Karen Martin: 440-796-2179. Visit the Gallery or our
website to register.

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Now Hiring

There are three open positions at Mentor United Methodist Church; Part-time Treasurer, Modern Worship Director, and Youth Director. Visit our website to learn more and share!

Pastor Meet & Greets

Pastors Steve and Ivy would like to meet with groups of 8-15 people once a week through the end of November. If you would like to plan a meet & greet, call Stephanie at the church to schedule a time. Steve and Ivy have set aside several 1.5 hour slots each week at various times. Learn about dates, times, and locations on our website or by calling the church.

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship hour is looking for individuals, families, Journey Groups or Teams to host on Sunday mornings. There are also still opportunities to donate prepackaged food such as chips, crackers, and cookies. To get involved or know more, please contact Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Congregational Photos!



Read the *Weekly Update* ONLINE by scanning QR Code



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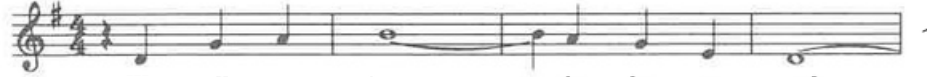


A Covenant of Grace

O WALY WALY (8.8.8.8)


Text: Anna Strickland (2021)

Music: Traditional English melody



We all come from the dus - ty earth
We all have wounds that no one sees
We all need peo - ple who will be
Sur - prised by God's un - bound - ed love

5



And from the pla - ces of our birth
Op - press - ion, trou - ma, and dis - ease
With us in sol - i - dar - i - ty
From ma - ny walks of life we come

9



An - ces - tral sto - ries who we'll be
When we bear wit - ness to the pain
No ex - pla - na - tion, no de - fense
To build a cov - e - nant of grace

13




We bring it all to come and see
It can be - gin to heal a - gain
Just min - is - try of their pres - ence
And in our diff'r - enc - es em - brace

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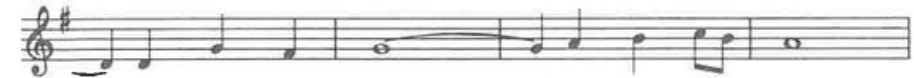
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4. Since July, I have attended worship in person on average about (select the one that best fits):

- a.Four or more times a month
- b.Three times a month
- c.Twice a month
- d.Once a month
- e.I only attend online

Comments:

5. Overall, the summer worship schedule helped increase in person worship attendance (select one):

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. No impact
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

6. Worship felt more dynamic and engaging (select one):

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. No impact
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

7. Overall, the summer worship schedule helped our mission of reaching more people and assisting them on a path of Christ-centered discipleship (select one):

- a.Strongly Agree
- b.Agree
- c.No impact
- d.Disagree
- e.Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

8. Overall, the summer worship schedule helped strengthen us as a congregation (select one):

- a.Strongly Agree
- b.Agree
- c.No impact
- d.Disagree
- e.Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

9. Our schedule of modern and traditional worship services at both 9:00 and 11:00 is the best way to further our mission of reaching more people and assisting them on a path of Christ-Centered discipleship (select one):

- a.Strongly Agree
- b.Agree
- c.No impact
- d.Disagree
- e.Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

10. I believe we should explore other worship schedule possibilities that would better help us further our mission...(select one):

- a.Strongly Agree
- b.Agree
- c.No impact
- d.Disagree
- e.Strongly Disagree

Please explain:

11. If a worship schedule study group* were to be formed, I would like to be part of that:

- a.Yes
- b.No
- c.Maybe

*A Worship Schedule Study Group would study various worship schedule possibilities to determine if a different worship schedule would better serve the mission of the church.

If you responded “Yes” or “Maybe” above, please share your name and information:
Otherwise, name and info is optional
Name:
Phone Number:
Email:

Church Directory Survey

We'd like to hear your thoughts about the upcoming Church Directory!

1. Would you have your picture taken for the Directory? (Circle)

- Yes
- No

2. Which of the following would you be comfortable sharing in a Directory? (Circle)

- Address
- Phone Number
- Both
- Neither

3. What are some thoughts/concerns you have?

Summer Worship Schedule Survey

Scan to
fill out
online



We followed a different schedule for worship this summer to allow Pastors Steve and Ivy to begin their ministry at Mentor UMC in worship together. We want to hear your feedback. You may use the paper survey or the QR code to complete the survey online. Please complete the survey by Monday, September 18. A team of leaders will be reviewing the results of the survey and reflecting on what we learned from the summer schedule. We plan on continuing to offer modern and traditional services at both 9:00 and 11:00. Thank you for your feedback.

1. Before July, I would normally attend (pick one that best fits):

- a. 9:00 Modern Worship in person
- b. 9:00 Traditional Worship in person
- c. 11:00 Modern Worship in person
- d. 11:00 Traditional Worship in person
- e. Online Modern Worship
- f. Online Traditional Worship
- g. Other _____

Comments:

2. Since July, this summer, I have normally attended (pick one that best fits):

- a. 9:00 Modern Worship in person
- b. 11:00 Traditional Worship in person
- c. Both 9:00 and 11:00 worship in person
- d. Online Modern Worship
- e. Online Traditional Worship
- f. Other _____

Comments:

3. Before July, I attended worship in person on average about (select the one that best fits):

- a. Four or more times a month
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