

Offering Prayer

O most gracious and giving Lord, how we thank you for the bounty of the earth, and especially the bounty of your grace that frees us from our sin. Receive now these gifts of love and gratitude, small though they may be, as expressions of our desire to serve you and follow your way. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

(UMH 185)

1. When morning gilds the skies my heart awakening cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer,
to Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!
2. The night becomes as day when from the heart we say:
May Jesus Christ be praised! The powers of darkness fear
when this sweet chant they hear: May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound:
May Jesus Christ be praised! In heaven's eternal bliss
the loveliest strain is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this th'eternal song
through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Benediction

Go forth with joy, celebrating all the many ways for us to serve our Lord. Give us courage, hope, peace and love that we might bear these gifts to others. Go in peace. AMEN.

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY. HAVE A GREAT DAY :)

Pastor: Rev. Peter Choi
Pastor's Cell Phone: 1-201-888-8430
Please call for appointment
Pastor's Email: peterchoiminden@gmail.com
Office Email: managerumcminden@msn.com
www.facebook.com/MindenUMC
www.mindenumc.org

Minden United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

July 26, 2020

8th Sunday after Pentecost

2020 Vision: Extend Hospitality to Strangers

Welcome and Announcements

Kim Snavelly

1. We finished our four day summer program for kids, "A Carnival of Faith." Thank for your support and your prayer, especially Kathi Schutz's devotion to the program. She designed and led the program. We will watch the video next Sunday.
2. As the school year starts, we will have a time to bless your kids' backpack, August 9 for the time of worship. This year will be different with COVID-19. If your kids can come to the in-person service, bring their backpack to the church. If your family attends the online worship, please prepare their backpack before the worship. We will give each student the prepackaged school supplies.
3. Please continue to support us with food pantry items, as many people in our town are experiencing difficult times.

Call to worship!

L: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

P: It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.

L: When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

P: Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.

L: God's transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.

P: Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us that they may grow into deeds of service to others in your name. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Our gracious and ever loving God, we come in the midst of summer looking for refreshment. We rest in the knowledge of the wonderful works you have done for us, and of the deep and abiding love you have for us and for all God's people. Search our hearts. Fill our soul with your indwelling Spirit who whispers to our soul that all will be well if we but trust in you. Shine your light before us, that we may see our path to you and to your kingdom on earth. Amen.

Congregational Prayer

Opening Song

“Trust and Obey”

(UMH 476)

1. When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

**(Refrain) Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

2. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. (Refrain)

3. But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. (Refrain)

4. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
or we'll walk by His side in the way;
what he says we will do, where He sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. (Refrain)

Children's Time

Ginger Frizane

Scriptures

Kathi Schutz

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

“Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. “Yes,” they replied. He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

Romans 8:26-39

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

"Treasure"

Pastor Peter Choi

Pastoral Prayer—Lord's Prayer

Prayer List...

Dick Swartz Family, Ed Sorensen, Lori Conyers's Parents,
Dolly Grams, Angie Taylor, and Corey Smidt's mother.

This week's birthdays: Rhodell Jameson, Julie Ratka,
Leah Boudreau, Lisa Cohen, Carlie Bauer, Chris Cohen.

This week's anniversary celebrations:

Joe & Marjorie Hultquist—56 years & Gary & Deb Smidt—46 years

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

(UMH 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!