

Call to Worship

L: Welcome today to a celebration of God's love!

P: We are grateful for this welcome.

L: Feel the loving power of God flow into your lives.

P: We open our hearts and lives to receive God's blessings.

L: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

P: Lord, be with us today as we listen for your words of hope.

AMEN

Congregational Opening Prayer

Merciful God, we boldly pray to you, confident that you will not reject us. In spite of our human failings, your love continues to draw us together. Be with us today, as we rejoice in the power of your love. Sing with us today, as we proclaim the good news of your grace. Dance with us today, as we celebrate the unity we share in Christ. How good it is to be together! Hallelujah! Amen!

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Hymn "Victory in Jesus" (UMH 370)

Children's Time Pastor Peter Choi

Scriptures Larry Evans

Genesis 45: 1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

"So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

"You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly."

Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Matthew 15:21-28

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message "True Forgiveness" Pastor Peter Choi



Pastoral Prayer

Prayer List...

Lori Conyers's Parents, Dolly Grams,
and Corey Smidt's family.

This week's birthdays:

Ryan Engel	Jess Putnam
Kersie Delaney	Jaxyn Olsen
William Barber	Steve Maulsby
Marah Dornhoff	Carol Wright
Terese Smith	Brad Janda

This week's anniversary celebrations:

Mike & Lori Conyers—29 years
James & Virginia Madsen—14 years
Larry & Laurain Tatum—66 years
Steven & Jenny Favinger—50 years

Lord's Prayer

Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (UMH 94)

Offering Prayer

God of blessing, in your Spirit we are rich beyond words. Thank you, God, for providing for us. Thank you for your sustaining Spirit that guides us and nurtures us. We give today as an offering of thanksgiving. Receive our gratitude; may it provide for others as there is need. In praise and awe, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Freely, Freely" (UMH 389)

Benediction

The Holy Spirit is upon you to bless and empower you. Go, to keep the fires of God's love and justice burning wherever and whenever you can. Keep that spark burning in your heart and soul.

Postlude

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Minden United Methodist Church Order of Worship

August 16, 2020

11th Sunday after Pentecost

2020 Vision:

Extend Hospitality to Strangers

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Tony Ratka

This very hour, this very minute, we have the wonderful opportunity to come before the Lord with rejoicing. In a spirit of love and friendship, we welcome all who have come. Let us lift up our hearts to the Lord.

1. Last week our Sunday school teachers delivered the packages of school supplies to over 60 student's homes. We would like to thank Dan, Ginger and Kathi on behalf of the church.
2. Please return the survey to the church by mail or drop in the box by the Northwest door. Your voices are very important for the ministry of the church. We will inform you of the results in the September newsletter.
3. Starting in September Pastor Peter will reach out to all church members and non-members who are registered and visit their homes. DUE TO COVID-19, he will not enter your house but wear a mask and keep 12 feet social distancing outside. It will be just a five minute visitation or a little longer on request.
4. Also starting in September Pastor Peter plans to open zoom-chats once or twice a week. You can talk, share and ask whatever with us by phone and computer. We will send further importation along with our September newsletter.
5. Please continue to support us with food pantry items, as many people in our town are experiencing difficult times.