

## Message “Miracles in the Desert” Pastor Peter Choi

### Joys and Concerns

#### Prayer List...

Marjorie Madsen, Marjorie Hultquist, Maxine Grams,  
Ed Sorensen, Lori Conyers's Parents, and Dolly Grams.

**This week's birthdays:** Marlys Farm, Jeff Johnson,  
and Avery Froid

#### This week's anniversary celebrations:

Jess & Kyla Putnam—21 years

### Pastoral Prayer—The Lord's Prayer

#### \*Doxology

UMH 94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

### Offertory Prayer

O God, from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel made known through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

### Closing Song

“Forever Reign”

### Benediction

The God who blesses you this day sends you out into the world to bless those you encounter. As you speak the words of peace and love to others, you will find your life filled with these gifts, also. Go with and to be the blessing of God Almighty. Amen.

## Thank You for Worshipping with us today.

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# MINDEN

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Extend Hospitality to Strangers

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

## Order of Worship

### September 20, 2020

### 16th Sunday after Pentecost

### Welcome and Announcements

Kim Snaveley

With open hearts and minds, we reach out in friendship to all who have come to worship. Welcome friends! May God's presence uplift and sustain you as we lift up our hearts to the Lord!

1. Please post on YouTube or Facebook in the comments any joys and prayers you have. Pastor Peter will read these before prayer time and pray for those requests.
2. Our ZOOM gatherings are every Thursday, 1:00pm and 7:00pm. For about twenty minutes we will talk to each other by phone or computer and then for about twenty minutes Pastor Peter will lead a Bible devotion. Please see the information in our September newsletter or contact Tony Ratka.
3. As a national and global day of prayer and repentance, the Return invites you to come and pray together between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at the windmill, 521 N Colorado, in downtown Minden. Highly encourage you to wear a mask at the local site. For more information, please contact Dee Farlin at 816-882-3115. Or visit [thereturn.org](http://thereturn.org) to participate, sign up and learn more.
4. Pastor Peter is visiting church friends.
5. Last week we received offerings of \$1,815. Thank you for the offerings, prayers, and food-pantry items.

### \*Opening Song

“I Will Rise”

## \*Call to Worship

L: Open your hearts to God's loving mercy.

**P: Lord, come into our hearts this day.**

L: Having received God's mercy, bring that love to others.

**P: Lord, be with us as we reach out to others in compassion.**

L: Feel your spirits filled with the goodness of God.

**P: Lord, we thank you for the many blessings which you pour into our lives. AMEN.**

## \*Opening Prayer

Lord, who lifts us up, reside in our hearts today. Help us to listen closely for your word to us. Remind us that you are always with us, throughout all of our lives. Give us confidence in your presence, so that we may go into your world ready to witness to your love through our works and our deeds, for we pray these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.

## \*Congregational Prayer

### Children's Time

Ginger Frizane

### Scriptures

#### Exodus 16:2-15

Melissa Klabunde

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days."

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?" Moses also said, "You will know that it was the Lord when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the Lord."

Then Moses told Aaron, "Say to the entire Israelite community, 'Come before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.'"

While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the Lord appearing in the cloud.

The Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"

That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, "It is the bread the Lord has given you to eat.

#### Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

"About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went.

"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

"'Because no one has hired us,' they answered.

"He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

"The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

"But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

"So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**