Joys and Concerns

<u>Happy Birthday</u> to Terese Smith, Brad Janda, Levi Loseke, and Marsha Granger.
<u>Happy Anniversary</u> to Jim & Virginia Madsen—17 yrs and Mark & Lori Loseke—22 years.
<u>Prayer List:</u> Family & Friend of Dale Space, Family and Friends of Libby Williams, Joe Hultquist, Marjorie Hultquist, Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, and Kent Verbeck.

Pastoral Prayer—The Lord's Prayer

Offertory Music

"Doxology "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

Offertory Prayer

Creator and architect of the universe, we want to believe that your love for us means you will go before us on life's path and clear the way, making it easy to travel, but our experience doesn't always bear that out. We know you see a bigger picture than we do. As we bring you our offerings this day, we affirm your presence with us in the pits of despair as well as in the palaces of plenty. We give with gratitude, in Christ's holy name. Amen.

Closing Song "God You Reign" #11

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. AMEN.

Sending Forth

United Methodist Church 340 N Newell Ave Minden, Nebraska 12th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. August 20, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

We appreciate everyone who contributed to the success of our annual rummage sale on behalf of UMW.
 Our community is going to have a "Prayer Walk for Our Schools" today at 6:30 pm. Please meet at the front door of CL Jones or Elementary School.

3. We will be holding a Bible study session titled "Threading the Bible" this Thursday at 10:00 am.

4. The Memorial Service for Libby Williams will take place here at 11:00 am, August 25th.

5. We are seeking Wednesday school teachers and volunteers. A meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, September 6th. If you'd like to support us, please join the meeting.

6. Youth Group will resume at 6:30 pm on Sept 13th.

7. If you'd like to volunteer as a scripture reader, usher, greeter, or refreshment host, please write your name on the clipboard. We will be passing this clipboard around during the worship service.

8. The Church Conference is scheduled for 7:00 pm on October 26th at Kearney First United Methodist Church. Please prepare for the conference and complete all necessary tasks before this date.

9. Pastor Peter will be attending a residential program in Junction City from Sunday through Tuesday.

10. We invite you to join us in room 300 for a time of socializing and refreshments, including coffee and cookies, following the worship service.

Call to Worship

L: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

P: God's love flows through our lives!

L: This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

P: this is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God. L: Let us rejoice on this day!

P: Lord, we thank you for the blessings you pour on us. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Merciful God, we are 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! Amen!

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Songs "Now That You're Near" #25 "Mighty to Save" #20

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

The Apostles' Creed

UMH#882

Scriptures Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)

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 "The Cry for Help" by Pastor Peter Choi

Nadine Fahrlander