



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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October 8, 2023

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

() The congregation will please stand as able
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING

PRELUDE:

*CALL TO WORSHIP ***

The depth, breadth and height of God's creation
knows no bounds

We are called to be stewards of God's world.

Who is exempt from the love of God?

Even though we turn away from God,

God's love is still poured out to us.

God, heal our wounded spirits,

encourage and inspire us to do your will.

Be present with us

as we grow and learn in our faith. AMEN.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

428 For the Healing of the Nations

1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
2. Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing of the things that
world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred, all may come and
earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing, dog - mas that ob -
hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness bring the life of

earth af - fords; to a life of love in ac - tion help us
go in peace. Show us how through care and good - ness fear will
scure your plan. In our com - mon quest for jus - tice may we
Christ to mind, that by our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its

rise and pledge our word, (pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.
die and hope in - crease, (hope in - crease) fear will die and hope in - crease.
hal - low life's brief span, (life's brief span) may we hal - low life's brief span.
des - ti - ny may find, (may find) earth its des - ti - ny may find.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1965 (Rev. 21:1-22:5)

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA

87.87.87

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*PRAYER OF CONFESSION ***

God of infinite forgiveness,

we implore you this day to forgive those many times
in which we have turned our backs on you by turning away from the
needs of the voiceless, the hopeless, the helpless.

We let ourselves get distracted by schedules and activities
which drain us of energy and enthusiasm.

Light a fire under us, O God, that we may again
feel the exciting challenge of being your people.

Heal our wounds of indifference and apathy;
bring us together in harmony and joy
to serve you and your creation
with peace, justice, and hope.

It is in the name of your Son Jesus Christ,
that we offer this prayer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS ***

Feel the powerful warmth of God's love for you!

God is with you,

healing and restoring your lives and bringing you peace.

This is the good news from our persistent and patient God.

Thanks be to God! ***

*Passing the Peace of Christ

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: [Exodus 32:1-14](#) (Pg. 69) **

*The text is provided as context for the sermon. Due to copyright restrictions the
music cannot be recorded.*

ANTHEM

Come Build a Church

Ken Medema

God of creation, maker of all things,
we gather in this place to pray.

We do invite you come now among us;
come and build your church today.

REFRAIN

*Come Build a church with soul and spirit,
come build a church of flesh and bone.*

We need no tower rising skyward;

no house of wood or glass, or stone.

Come build a church with human frailty.

Come build a church of flesh and blood.

Jesus shall be it's foundation.

It shall be built by the hand of God.

Let us see the tongues of fire. Let us hear the great wind roar.

Let us know the awe and wonder, that we've only glimpsed before.

Let us feel the strength of passion which can make us laugh and weep.

Let us know this great awakening, for so long we've been asleep.

Let us know the love unceasing, which alone can loose the bounds.

Reaching out across the chasms, bringing walls of hatred down.

Let us taste the sweet communion, where the circle never ends.

Hold us in the sweet connection, turning strangers into friends.

REFRAIN

Guide our feet in peaceful pathways. Teach us peace of heart and mind;

peace with God and all God's children; till we leave our wars behind.

Surely joy will come and find us like a breeze that cools the night;

like the rains upon the desert; like a candle's gentle light.

REFRAIN

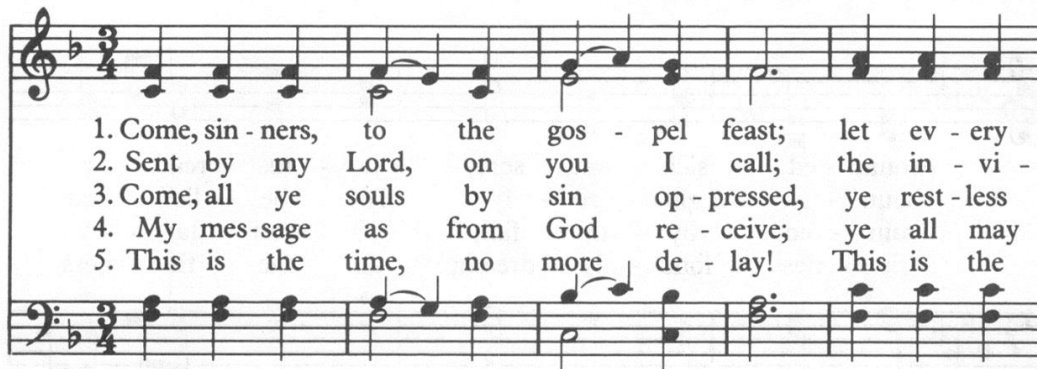
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TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

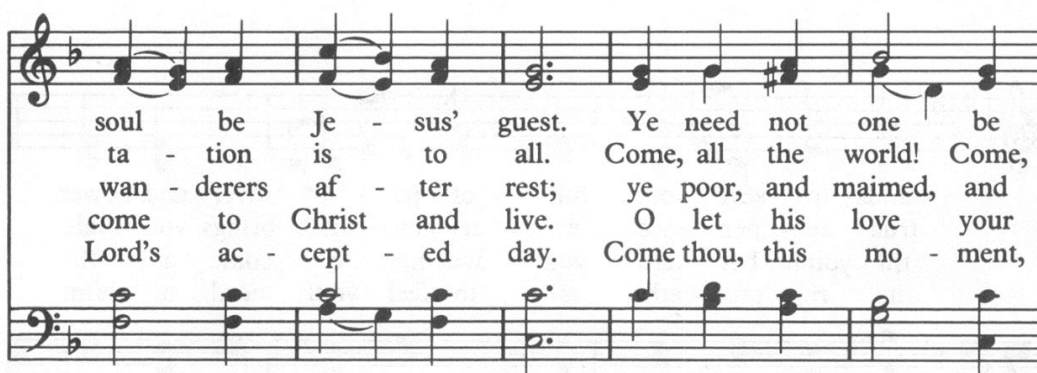
CHILDREN MESSAGE: (WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT)

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

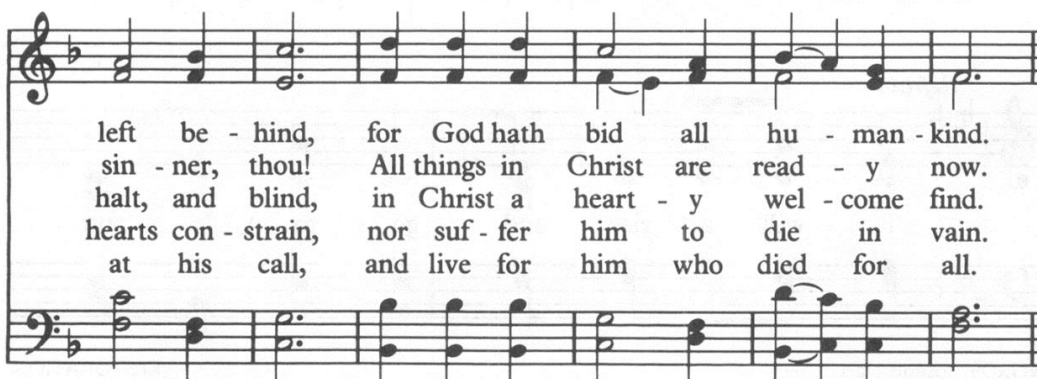
Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast 339



1. Come, sin - ners, to the gos - pel feast; let ev - ery
2. Sent by my Lord, on you I call; the in - vi -
3. Come, all ye souls by sin op - pressed, ye rest - less
4. My mes - sage as from God re - ceive; ye all may
5. This is the time, no more de - lay! This is the



soul be Je - sus' guest. Ye need not one be
ta - tion is to all. Come, all the world! Come,
wan - derers af - ter rest; ye poor, and maimed, and
come to Christ and live. O let his love your
Lord's ac - cept - ed day. Come thou, this mo - ment,



left be - hind, for God hath bid all hu - man - kind.
sin - ner, thou! All things in Christ are read - y now.
halt, and blind, in Christ a heart - y wel - come find.
hearts con - strain, nor suf - fer him to die in vain.
at his call, and live for him who died for all.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747 (Lk. 14:16-24)

MUSIC: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, ca. 1774; adapt. from *Metrical Psalter*, 1855

HURSLEY

LM

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GOSPEL LESSON:

[Matthew 22:1-14](#)

(Pg. 803) **

Please remain standing for the Gospel Lesson

For the word of God in Scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

71

Glory Be to the Father

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GREATOREX
Irr.

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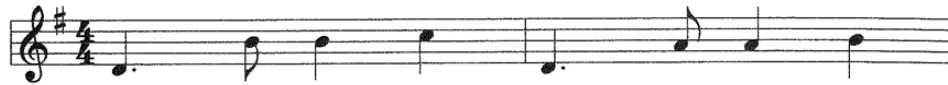
SERMON Dan L. Saucier Sr. - Guest Speaker

"Turning Stewardship into Action"

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

*HYMN

Wounded World that Cries for Healing 2177



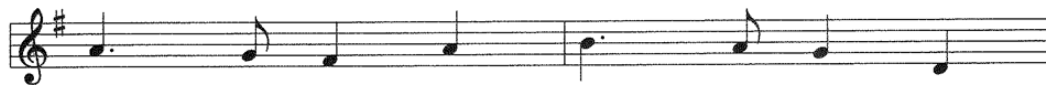
1. Wound - ed world that cries for heal - ing —
2. Through our na - tion's spent frus - tra - tion,
3. Hon - or those whose lov - ing spir - it



here we hold each oth - er's pain, wound - ed sys - tems,
through the cor - ri - dors of stress may there move a
nurs - es hope, re - stores and heals, towel and ba - sin



bruised and bleed - ing bear the load, the scars of strain;
kind - lier wis - dom all may feel, and all may bless;
used in ser - vice like the Christ who comes and kneels;



dol - lars ra - tion our com - pas - sion,
tax and tithe are for a pur - pose
in the tend - ing, in the mend - ing



hard de - ci - sions rule the day, Je - sus of the
shared to shield the poor and weak; past the symp - toms
may we see the right and fair, in our com - mon



heal - ing Spir - it, free us to an - oth - er way!
of our sick - ness let the voice of jus - tice speak.
quest for whole - ness heal each oth - er by our care.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson
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HEALING SPIRIT
87.87 D

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG *The Choir sings....*

*Hear our prayer O Lord,
help us seek thy grace, help us find thy peace.*

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INVITATION TO PRAYER:

Leader: "The Lord be with you "

People: "And also with you..."

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

[The Lord's Prayer](#)

(UMH p. 895)

PRAYER SONG *The Choir Sings..... Amen*

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[Presentation of Tithes and Offerings](#)

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CELEBRATING LAITY

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OFFERTORY MUSIC

Improvisation Kevin G. Lindsay

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Unison

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;

praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:

Harmony

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

Refrain (Harmony)

Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

1 Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good
 2 Go forth for God, go to the world in love; strength - en the
 3 Go forth for God, go to the world in strength; hold fast the
 4 Go forth for God, go to the world in joy, to serve God's

cour - age, armed with heaven - ly grace, in God's good Spir - it
 faint, give cour - age to the weak; help the af - flict - ed;
 good, be ur - gent for the right; ren - der to no one
 peo - ple ev - ery day and hour, and serv - ing Christ, our

dai - ly to in - crease, till in the king - dom we see face to
 rich - ly from a - bove God's love sup - plies the grace and power we
 e - vil; Christ at length shall o - ver - come all dark - ness with his
 ev - ery gift em - ploy, re - joic - ing in the Ho - ly Spir - it's

face. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.
 seek. Go forth for God, go to the world in love.
 light. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.
 power. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

WORDS: J. R. Peacey (1896-1971)

MUSIC: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; harm. C. Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt.

Words © 1984 Hope Publishing Company

GENEVA 124
10.10.10.10.

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*Benediction

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation

Kevin G. Lindsay

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Liturgist:

Amy Cook

Video and Sound Engineer:

Kent Marzoli

Altar Flowers:

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***Worship elements from *MINISTRY MATTERS*

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Looking Ahead

Readings for October 22, 2023

Twenty First Sunday After Pentecost

[Exodus 33:12-23 / Psalm 99](#)

[1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 / Matthew 22:15-22](#)

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