

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
July 9th, 2023~9:30 A.M.

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

PRELUDE

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said, "Come unto me all you who are weary and I will give you rest."

We long for our souls to rest in the peace that Jesus gives.

Jesus also said, "Take my yolk upon you and learn from me."

We come today to learn from the God of all knowledge.

Jesus said, "My yolk is easy, and my burden is light."

As we come to worship, let us cast our burdens on the Savior and find that he bears our burdens and lightens our load. It is our joy to say yes to his invitation.

HYMN....."Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"UMH #384

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we move and have our being, you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and strengthen of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we put our love into practice. These gifts we offer came from your love for us. Now, let them express our love for you, as they reach out to others with your love for them. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Bob Hunter

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, male and female servants, and camels and donkeys. My master’s wife Sarah has borne him a son in her old age, and he has given him everything he owns. And my master made me swear an oath, and said, ‘You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live, but go to my father’s family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.’

“When I came to the spring today, I said, ‘LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. See, I am standing beside this spring. If a young woman comes out to draw water and I say to her, “Please let me drink a little water from your jar,” and if she says to me, “Drink, and I’ll draw water for your camels too,” let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master’s son.’

“Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, ‘Please give me a drink.’

“She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, ‘Drink, and I’ll water your camels too.’ So I drank, and she watered the camels also.

“I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’

“She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milkah bore to him.’

“Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms, and I bowed down and worshiped the LORD. I praised the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master’s brother for his son. Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I may know which way to turn.”

So they called Rebekah and asked her, “Will you go with this man?” “I will go,” she said.

So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham’s servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

“Our sister, may you increase
to thousands upon thousands;
may your offspring possess
the cities of their enemies.”

Then Rebekah and her attendants got ready and mounted the camels and went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

Now Isaac had come from Beer Lahai Roi, for he was living in the Negev. He went out to the field one evening to meditate, and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching. Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. She got down from her camel and asked the servant, “Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?”

“He is my master,” the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself.

Then the servant told Isaac all he had done. Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Psalm 45:10-17

Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear:

forget your people and your father's house,
and the king will desire your beauty.

Since he is your lord, bow to him.

The people^[a] of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,
the richest of the people.

All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.

In many-colored robes she is led to the king,
with her virgin companions following behind her.

With joy and gladness they are led along
as they enter the palace of the king.

In place of your fathers shall be your sons;
you will make them princes in all the earth.

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

HYMN....."Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling".....UMH #348

SCRIPTURE READING.....Pastor Jon

Romans 7:15-25a

For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks

be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

MESSAGE....."Oh, Those Fickle Children".....Pastor Jon

HYMN....."Just a Closer Walk With Thee"TFWS #2158

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

Colony Court: Shirley Burdick

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Leona Quast, Marian Broughten

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson

Foxdale: Lucille Kubista

Benedictine Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Prayer Requests for Sunday: Sue Baldini, Kara Ecoff, Tim Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Beverly Pippenger, Bob Stephan, Gloria Rollag, government officials, health care workers, first responders, and those who are at risk and most vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith at the Fair is next Sunday, July 16. We will worship at **10:00 am** that morning at the Free Stage. (Please note the time). In the event of inclement weather, we will be moved into one of the buildings. Come and enjoy a fun get-together with friends. Please spread the word to others to attend.

On Sunday, July 30, after worship, we will be having a welcoming potluck for Pastor Jon and Nicki. Beverages and cake will be provided. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. Please mark July 30 on your calendar and plan to attend to welcome Pastor Jon and Nicki and celebrate Pastor Jon's appointment to our church.

Please note that Stacy True, Administrative Assistant, will be out of the office on July 12 and July 13. Stacy plans to be in the office on Monday, July 10 but is uncertain of the time due to an appointment. Stacy will be in the office on Tuesday, July 11 in the morning.

Please note that Pastor Jon will be in Minneapolis on July 18 and 19 for mandatory conference meetings.

Ruth Circle is meeting this Tuesday, July 11 at 1:00 pm in the Gathering Room. Edy will be the hostess and the program will be on butterflies.