

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
July 23rd, 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, "I Am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

HYMN....."Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"UMH #694

UNISON PRAYER

O Holy God, open unto me light for my darkness, courage for my fear, hope for my despair.

O Holy God, open unto me wisdom for my confusion, forgiveness for my sins, love for my hate.

O God of peace, open unto me peace for my turmoil, joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness.

O generous God, open my heart to receive all your gifts. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

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.....Unison

Heavenly Father, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. We pray for your blessing upon all we offer you, ourselves, our time, our possessions, that through us your grace may be known to all the world. In the name of our Redeemer, Jesus we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Janet Welch

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder^[a] set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Or where shall I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light about me be night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!
And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!

Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness

with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Thanks be to God!

HYMN....."Nearer, My God, To Thee"UMH #528

GOSPEL READING.....Pastor Jon Schultz

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds^[a] among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants^[b] of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons

of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

MESSAGE....."Dad, Do I Still Have to Walk the Soybean Fields?"Pastor Jon Schultz

HYMN....."We Shall Overcome"UMH #533

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.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

07/23/2023 (Sun.)	9:30 am - Worship Service 10:30 am - Fellowship
07/24/2023 (Mon.)	3:00-4:30pm – Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room)
07/25/2023 (Tues.)	7:00 pm – Leadership Team Meeting (Gathering Room)
07/27/2023 (Thurs.)	1:00 pm - Newsletter Folding (Church Office)
07/30/2023 (Sun.)	9:30 am – Worship Service 10:30 am- Fellowship (Potluck for Pastor Jon & Nicki) 1:00 – 6:00 pm – Fellowship Hall reserved for True Family

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Pastor's Office Hours this Week:

Monday & Thursday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Rev. Jon Schultz Contact Info.:

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