



July 23, 2023
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

Heavenly Love

Giordani

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 100

Brenda Krens

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.**

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his^[a];

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good;

His love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.

*Opening Prayer

Brenda Krens

People ought to praise you, God of earth and heaven.

All of us ought to praise you.

You are always there, never growing old, fresh as each new day.

You were in Jesus, showing us your love by His death, and by His resurrection giving us hope of living with you forever.

You bring life and light into the world by your Holy Spirit, making every moment, and every day your day of coming to the rescue.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit let all the world give praise, today, and every day, and for ever and ever. Amen

*** Hymn**

To God be the Glory

UMH 98

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***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Brenda Krens

When Jesus left his disciples, he did not leave them alone. He promised that the Holy Spirit would be present in their lives, and he gave them an amazing gift: his peace, the peace of Christ. Through the Spirit, this gift lives still, and it is ours to share with others. Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of Christ by saying...

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

Children's Time

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

There Is a Savior

Susan Whitman

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Brenda Krens

Holy Spirit help us to have ears to hear what God wants to say to us through the Scriptures this morning. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give us the wisdom and vision which lead to the knowledge of Him. Amen

Old Testament

II Kings 6:15-17

Brenda Krens

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 11:1-6

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.”^[a] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Gospel Reading

John 6:5-13

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages^[a] to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, ⁹ “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

¹⁰ Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.” ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

*** Hymn:**

Be Thou My Vision

UMH 451

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Sermon

Pastor Larry

Momentum for the Journey: **Visioning for the Future;
Eating and Exercise For Life**

Leader: There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

People: This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up to glory. Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Larry

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Larry

Offertory Invitation

Brenda Krens

We are called to plant seeds of grace, hope, love and justice and to wait for God's mystery to work in the hearts and minds of others. The gifts we offer for Harmony's ministry and mission are seeds that reap a harvest beyond our imagining. With grateful hearts, let us make our offerings to God.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

In His Keeping

Morris

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Brenda Krens

Eternal God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bring you these gifts because we know that our life and all human life rightfully belongs to You and that everything have, we hold in trust from You. Dear God bless these gifts so that they may be used for Your purposes here and around the world. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*** Closing Hymn**

"Here I Am, Lord"

UMH 593

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Benediction

Pastor Larry

Choral Benediction

Go, Ye, Go Ye Into the World

Go ye, go ye into the world,

And tell the story to all believers.

Go ye make disciples of all the nations.

Go ye, go ye now, and I will be with you there!

Postlude

Ye Servants of God

Croft

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

Refrain:

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!***

*2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)*

*3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)*

BE THOU MY VISION

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*Great God of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

HERE I AM, LORD

*I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I have made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied*

*I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart
I will hold Your people in my heart*