



October 29, 2023  
Twentysecond Sunday after Pentecost

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

### Welcome

Pastor Larry

### Stewardship Moment

Kristi Padley & Becky Haines

### Prelude

Awakening

Engelmann

*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

Sandy Bruner

**"Please stand as we call ourselves to worship."**

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plane of God is known to all.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Let us kneel before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Sandy Bruner

Righteous God, your law is love. Your message is love. Your presence is love. May love fill our atmosphere and our interactions as we gather in your name. May love transform us, renew us, and revive us. Amen.

**\* Hymn**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

UMH 139

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**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

Sandy Bruner

**Children's Time**

Pastor Larry

**Ministry of Music**

*Simple Faith*

Choir

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Sandy Bruner

**God, our source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen!**

**I Timothy 6:3-21**

These are the things you are to teach and insist on. <sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, <sup>4</sup> they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions <sup>5</sup> and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to

keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

<sup>20</sup> Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, <sup>21</sup> which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith. Grace be with you all.

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Hymn**

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*

TFWS 2146

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### **Sermon**

*"How Much is Enough?"*

Pastor Larry

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in God,  
Creator of the universe,  
Giver of every good gift,  
Author of life itself.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom,  
who commanded us to care for those in need,  
who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth,  
and who gave us the example of self-giving love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's gifts,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
by whom all things are possible.  
We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and generously,**

in a spirit of love and joy.

We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God's, caretakers of God's home.

We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship, a means of praising God who has blessed us so abundantly.

We believe that God has great things in store for us, for it is in giving that we receive.

(Allen & Sara Ewing-Merrill, 2004)

### **Morning Prayer**

Pastor Larry

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offertory Invitation**

Sandy Bruner

Sharing of the abundance we receive is a tangible way to love our neighbor as ourselves.

May we give with generous and empathetic hearts stirred to compassion to meet the needs before us.

### **Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

Mason

*\*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*

Sandy Bruner

**Giving God, we follow your example of the ministry of presence in the sharing of our resources. Prosper the work of our hands and minds and enable us to make a difference and participate in your kingdom through generosity. Amen.**

### **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

### **\* Closing Hymn**

*As a Fire is Meant for Burning*

TFWS 2237

### **Benediction**

Pastor Larry

**Choral Benediction**

*Benediction Hymn*

**Now may the Lord bless you and keep you  
and make his face to shine upon you;  
and may God lift his countenance upon you  
and give you blessed peace for now and evermore.**

**Postlude**

*Immortal, Invisible*

Welsh Melody

## **PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
How to his temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration!*

*Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning  
Bears thee on eagle's wings,  
E'er in his keeping maintaining.  
God's care enfolds all,  
Whose true good he upholds.  
Hast thou not known his sustaining?*

*Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
Who with his love doth befriend thee.*

*Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish  
Thy life and restore thee,  
Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.  
Then to thy need  
God as a mother doth speed,  
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.*

*Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
Come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again;  
Gladly forever adore him.*

## HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW

*Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
and long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is he:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.*

*2 "Let not your heart be troubled,"  
his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;  
though by the path he leadeth  
but one step I may see;  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.*

*3 Whenever I am tempted,  
whenever clouds arise,  
when song give place to sighing,  
when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him,  
from care he sets me free:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;*

*his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.  
I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.*

## **AS A FIRE IS MEANT FOR BURNING**

*As a fire is meant for burning  
With a bright and warming flame,  
So the church is meant for mission,  
Giving glory to Gods' name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
But to build a bridge of care,  
We join hands across the nations,  
Finding neighbors everywhere.*

*We are learners; we are teachers;  
We are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers;  
We are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions  
We would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit  
We would live to God's delight.*

*As a green bud in the springtime  
Is a sign of life renewed,  
So may we be signs of oneness  
'mid earth's people, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens  
When a storm is past and gone,  
May our lives reflect the radiance  
Of God's new and glorious dawn.*