



**June 16, 2024**  
**4th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Father's Day**

## **GATHERING AND PRAISE**

### **Welcome**

### **Prelude**

*Eternal Father, Strong to Serve*

Dykes

*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**

Patti Barnes

Rejoice, people of God: this is our Sabbath day.

**Rejoice, friends in Christ: this is our time for worship.**

God ordained the Sabbath, rest and restoration.

**God is worthy of worship, our Creator, Healer, and Inspiration.**

So then, let us worship God.

### **Opening Prayer**

Patti Barnes

Heavenly Father, we gather this morning with those who love You,  
that we might sing Your praises and share Your love with one another.

You have shown Your faithfulness to us every day

in ways that we do not always recognize,

so we gather today in order to thank You for Your constant watch-care over us.

Help us to entrust our lives to You and Your purposes

as we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen

**Hymn**

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

UMH 62

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**Passing the Peace of Christ**

Patti Barnes

**Children's Message**

Pastor Larry

**Ministry of Music**

*He Must Be Love*

Damon Moore

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Patti Barnes

**Living Word of God,**

**like garden soil prepared for tender spring plants,**

**our hearts and minds are ready to receive**

**the gift of your divine love story.**

**May it live and grow in us forever. Amen.**

**Acts 6:1-15**

**6** In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

<sup>5</sup> This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup> So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup> Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

<sup>11</sup> Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

<sup>12</sup> So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. <sup>13</sup> They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. <sup>14</sup> For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.”

<sup>15</sup> All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

**Hymn**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

UMH 140

**Sermon**

*“Takin’ Care of Business”*

Pastor Larry

**Romans 8**

**Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword? No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

UMH 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Larry

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Offertory Invitation**

Patti Barnes

When it comes to our resources, we build walls of security around ourselves with our money, time, energy and activity. We forget that our true home and our true security is found in God alone. May God transform our heart’s desire until our actions align with God’s will for our lives.

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory*

*We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

Dearman

*\*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*

Patti Barnes

**This is our heart's desire, loving God, that you would take our money and our time, our prayers and our service, and transform them into the currency of your kingdom. Amen.**

### **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

#### **Hymn**

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

UMH 133

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#### **Benediction**

Pastor Larry

#### **Choral Benediction**

*Spirit of the Living God*

UMH 393

*Spirit of the living God,*

*Fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God,*

*Fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.*

*Spirit of the living God,*

*Fall afresh on me.*

#### **Postlude**

*Chorus of Praise*

Johnston

**ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING**

*All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing,  
O praise ye! Alleluia!  
O brother sun with golden beam,  
O sister moon with silver gleam!*

**Refrain:**

***O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain,  
By which all creatures ye sustain,  
O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice! **Refrain***

*O sister water, flowing clear,  
Make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O brother fire who lights the night,  
Providing warmth, enhancing sight, **Refrain***

*Dear mother earth, who day by day  
Unfoldest blessings on our way,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
Let them God's glory also show! **Refrain***

*All ye who are of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care! **Refrain***

## **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.*

### **Refrain:**

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!***

*2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain***

*3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain***

## **LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS**

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.*

**Refrain:**

***Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.***

*2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.*

**(Refrain)**

*3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.*

**(Refrain)**