

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

“7th SUNDAY OF EASTER”

“ASCENSION SUNDAY”

“HERITAGE SUNDAY”

May 21st, 2023

Dallas United Methodist Church

Liturgical Color – White



TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

*“When Creator Sets Free (Jesus) died on the cross
those things that made us enemies died with him.
We are now joined together as one people in one body.”*

- Ephesians 2:16b (The First Nations Version)

* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jesus Loves Me! This I Know

by William B. Bradbury; arr. by David Angerman (ASCAP)

OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious God, you met John Wesley’s uncertainty with divine assurance
and you called him to declare your salvation in the fields, streets, and prisons
where people were desperate for good news.**

**Inspire us today to carry the stories of all you have done among us
beyond the doors of this building,
that we may grow as your church in the world,
a living temple that brings your love and grace
to the corners of our communities that most need your good news.
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

On this Heritage Sunday, we gather to remember who we are.

We are the story of God’s grace in this place.

From Aldersgate Street in London, England to 4 Parsonage Street in Dallas, Pennsylvania,
God’s grace flows among us,

guiding us to notice and participate in God’s unfolding story of love in our midst.

We are the story of God’s grace in this place.

We have seen troubles, conflict, and fear within and outside these walls,
yet God remains as our faithful guide.

We are the story of God’s grace in this place.

We have been part of spreading God’s love in this community,
rejoicing when we witness lives transformed, families nurtured,
and neighbors caring for one another.

We are the story of God’s grace in this place.

Today may we celebrate all that God has done and continues to do in our midst

as we remember and renew our commitment to take part in God's story in this place.

We joyfully answer the call to live out God's story of grace in this place! Amen.

* *And Are We Yet Alive*

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PRAYER OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

We have to confess, O Lord, that we are people who want to have everything proven for us.

Forgive us for our arrogant doubts and attitudes of smugness.

Forgive our 'holier than thou' mindset that far too often is what we show the world.

Forgive us when we forget that this is your church and not ours.

Help us remember that everything Jesus taught us

was to prepare us to help build your realm, not ours, here on earth. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

* AN EASTER AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

by Brian Miller

**We believe in God the Father, who created the world,
was faithful when we were not, and who continuously seeks to redeem the world.**

**We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ,
who humbled himself by becoming human and moving into our neighborhood;
was sent by the Father to give us life; embodied and taught the righteous love of God;
and who, though he knew no sin, became sin and was put to death on a cross.**

**We believe that three days later, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead by the power of God;
was seen in bodily form by his disciples.**

**We believe that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus
gives us victory over any form of sin and brokenness
and allows us to know the full love of God for the world.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who actively works in our lives, giving us grace to be like Jesus,
and sends us to show God's love for the world.**

* *Glory Be to the Father*

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CHILDREN'S CHAT

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER / THREE-FOLD AMEN

(from the ritual of the former Methodist Church)

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.

SPECIAL SELECTION

Choir

GOD'S WORD FOR US:

Ephesians 2:8-22

(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God")

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

"REMEMBER CHURCH"

* *O Church of God, United*

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* BENEDICTION

* *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

589 (tune # 298 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross)

THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday ... Acts 2:43-47 --- Tuesday ... Acts 3:1-10

Wednesday ... Acts 4:32-37 --- Thursday ... Zechariah 4:1-10

Friday ... Ephesians 4:17 – 5:2 --- Saturday ... Romans 8:1-17

Sunday ... Acts 2:1-21 ... Psalm 104:24-34 ... 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 ... John 20:19-23

INFORMATION FOR YOU

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS ... Please join us following Worship this morning for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

QUILTING GROUP # 1 ... will meet this Tuesday from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. This group meets in the Wesley Room making “ugly sleeping bags” for MY BROTHERS KEEPER MINISTRIES. For more information please contact Judy Donlin (570-675-2693).

CHURCH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ... will meet THIS Thursday, May 25th, at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Lounge.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ... Our Church Office will be closed THIS Friday, May 26th.

FATHER’S DAY BOOKLET ... You can “remember” or “honor” fathers and ‘father figures’ in your life by filling out the form in today’s bulletin and placing it the “Father’s Day Box” on the table in the Prayer Room or by returning it to the church office. The deadline for names is June 11th.

CHOIR PRACTICE ... Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM. New members are always welcome.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ... Peter Uritz (Friday ... May 26th)

MINISTRY & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

DALLAS UMC STREAMING TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED ... We are hoping to expand our Streaming Team in order to give team members a break. No experience is necessary. We will train you. If you would like to be part of the team who care for live-streaming our Worship services, please contact Pastor Dave. If you know someone (adult or teenager) who would be interested in this ministry opportunity, please ask them to contact Pastor Dave. Interested persons need not be members of this church.

BACK MOUNTAIN FOOD PANTRY ... COMMUNITY CARE CABINET ... RUTH’S PLACE ... SHOEMAKER HUB ... We have containers on a table in the Prayer Room for your contributions to these ministries. **PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THESE IMPORTANT “AREA” MINISTRIES!!!**