

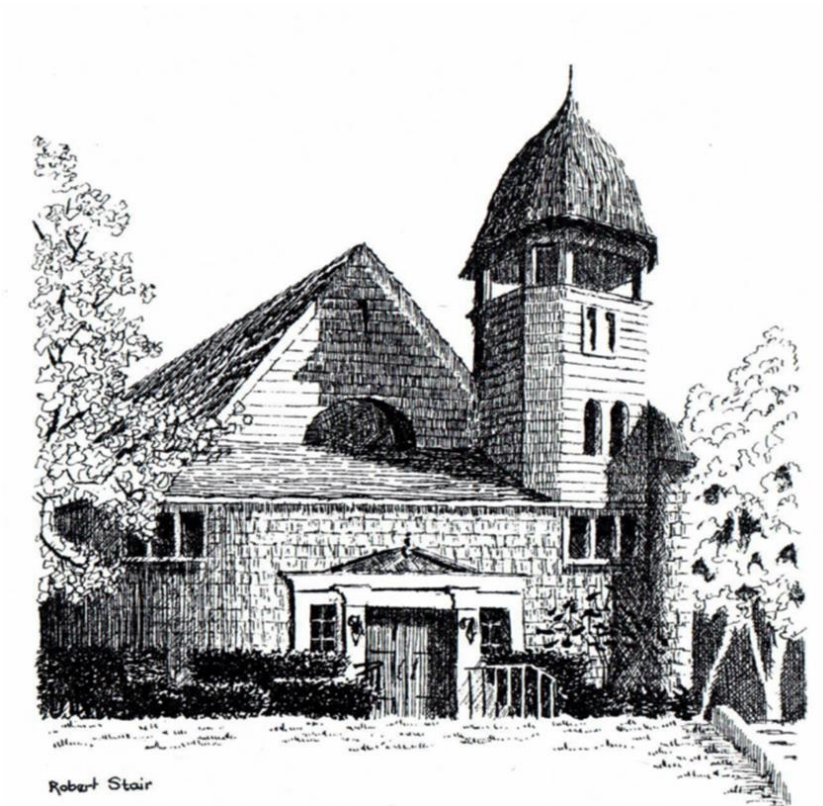
WELCOME TO WORSHIP

“11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST”

August 13th, 2023

Dallas United Methodist Church

Liturgical Color – Green



TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

He kissed all his brothers and wept, embracing them.

(Genesis 45:15a)

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

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, be with us today as we come to you from all life's circumstances.

As summer draws to a close, we begin to focus our attention to the activities of autumn.

For some it will mean preparing children for school;

for others youth will be preparing to enter college or the work force or perhaps military service.

Be with these precious ones as they embark on life's journeys.

Be with each one of us as we encounter life's challenges.

Open our hearts to receive your healing mercy and your transforming love.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

God's love flows through our lives!

This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

this is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God.

Let us rejoice on this day!

Lord, we thank you for the blessings you pour on us. Amen.

** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

89

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of infinite mercy and love,

we come before you this day,

knowing that we have not always been faithful

to what you would have us do.

**We have too often turned our backs on those in need,
choosing not to hear their cries.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

We know that you do not want us to behave in this way.

**Your love and mercy, so generously showered over us,
should be a beacon to guide our own actions.**

We make no excuses, for none would suffice.

We ask your forgiveness and blessing,

turning us again around and placing us on the path of compassion and peace.

This prayer we offer in Jesus' name. Amen

**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

** Glory Be to the Father*

70

** Happy the Home When God Is There*

445

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Rachel Bird

We Are the Church

558

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostles' Creed, Ecumenical Version

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

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

(from the ritual of the former Methodist Church)

Merciful God,

In love You created us,

and in love, You sustain us, day after day.

So it is with confidence that we bring our prayers to You,

knowing that You will hear and respond.

We pray for those who are estranged from their spouse or family,

Friends, or neighbors;

who find it difficult to forgive past wrongs done to them;

We pray for those who for years have carried feelings of guilt or regret

for something they did or something they neglected to do;

who find it difficult to ask for forgiveness or forgive themselves;

For those who find themselves far away from You,

struggling to overcome their doubts or disillusionment,

and who wonder how to find their way back;

For those watching someone they love try to cope

with serious illness or injury,

and who long for Your miraculous intervention;

For the many others in our world who are suffering this day—
from grief, or loneliness, hunger, poverty, violence, or illness;
Sustain all those who look to You in hope.
And strengthen us—Your people—
so that we may be love for all those who find themselves alone.
All this we pray in the holy and life-giving name of Jesus who taught us to pray ...
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.

GOD'S WORD FOR US: Genesis 45:3-15 ... Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God")

TODAY'S MESSAGE: "JOSEPH – HEALING A MESSY FAMILY" Carol Rosser

* OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD ...
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ... # 94

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION
God of abundance and joy,
we thank you for the many blessings you have poured on our lives.
Receive these gifts, lovingly given, and bless them in your service. Amen.

* *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* # 2223

* BENEDICTION Carol Rosser

* *Freely, Freely* # 389

***"In essentials unity.
In non-essentials liberty.
In all things charity."***

- Phillip Melanchthon ... often attributed to John Wesley

***"Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body."***

- St. Teresa of Avila

***"We prove our faith in Christ,
not by the rules we keep,
but by the love we give."***

- Jon Walker

***"Faith that is never challenged
makes for a pretty weak faith."***

- John Fisher

THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday ... 1 Chronicles 29:10-22
Tuesday ... Luke 10:1-12
Wednesday ... Luke 22:14-30
Thursday ... Hebrews 12:18-29
Friday ... Matthew 4:18-25
Saturday ... Revelation 11:15-19
Sunday ... Exodus 16:2-15 ... Psalm 78:1-3, 10-20 ...
... Romans 11:13-16, 29-32 ... Matthew 15:21-28

*Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?
May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion?
Without all doubt, we may.
Herein all the children of God may unite,
notwithstanding these smaller differences."*

- John Wesley

WESLEY'S 3-SIMPLE RULES

- 1) Do no harm
- 2) Do good
- 3) Stay in love with God

INFORMATION FOR YOU

WELCOME AND THANK YOU ... This morning we welcome and thank Carol Rosser for sharing the message, "Joseph – Healing a Messy Family" with us. Carol is a Certified Lay Speaker who is actively involved in the life of Maple Grove United Methodist Church.

PASTOR ON VACATION ... Pastor Dave is on vacation through Wednesday, August 23rd. If any pastoral emergencies arise during this time, please call Dottie at the church office (570-675-0122) or Patti DelGaudio (570-301-3525). They will then contact the pastor caring for such emergencies.

BULLETIN BOARD ... PLEASE be sure to check out our bulletin boards in the church entranceway. There you will find information about ministries, events, and activities in our sister churches in our Luzerne West Cluster, our Scranton Wilkes-Barre (SWB) District, and our Susquehanna Conference, as well as our local area.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR ... We have a calendar on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to mark down birthdays and anniversaries.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED ... The cost to sponsor the weekly ALTAR FLOWERS in "HONOR" of or in "MEMORY" of someone is \$50.00 ... There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to do so.

WORSHIP BULLETIN SPONSORS NEEDED ... The cost to sponsor the weekly WORSHIP BULLETIN in "HONOR" of or in "MEMORY" of someone is \$10.00 ... There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to do so.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY ... Barbara Lemmond ... yesterday, August 12th.

MINISTRY & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

URGENT ... DRIVERS NEEDED FOR MEALS-ON-WHEELS OF

WYOMING VALLEY ... Regular and Fill-In Volunteers are needed to drive meals to our clients on an as needed basis. Areas covered by MEALS ON WHEELS OF WYOMING COUNTY include Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Nanticoke, Plymouth, Ashley, and the Back Mountain. **The need is especially great for drivers in the Back Mountain area.** For more information, please contact Amy Morris (Director) at 570-288-1023 Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DEADLINE ...The deadline for donating school supplies for the children of the mothers in the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program at Misericordia University is NEXT Sunday, August 20th.

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).

QUILTING GROUP # 2 ... will meet this Wednesday, August 16th, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Please bring your own lunch. This group meets in the Wesley Room making “PROJECT DJ QUILTS” (for ill children) and “QUILTS OF VALOR” (for veterans). For more information please contact Judy Donlin (570-675-2693).

BLOOD DRIVE ... Our next RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be **Friday, September 22nd, from 1:00 PM until 5:30 PM.** If you are able, please donate here. You can schedule your appointment online at www.redcross.org/give-blood. If you can volunteer to help welcome donors or help with the canteen, please contact our church office.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER EVENT ... Saturday, October 7th at Orange UMC.

*“Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.”*

- John Wesley

BACK-MOUNTAIN FOOD BANK ... We have a shopping cart in the Mission Area of the Prayer Room to place your non-perishable food item contributions. This ministry is hosted / located at Trucksville UMC.

COMMUNITY CARE CABINET ... Works in cooperation with the BACK-MOUNTAIN FOOD PANTRY. Personal Care items are needed for this ministry. This ministry is hosted / located at Shavertown UMC. We have a container on the table in the Mission Area of the Prayer Room to place your contributions for this ministry.

RUTH’S PLACE ... Ruth’s Place needs the following items (all sizes) for women ... pajamas ... sweatpants ... T-shirts ... flip flops ... feminine hygiene products. We have a container for your donations on our Mission Table in the Prayer Room.

SHOEMAKER HUB ... collects household items (dishes, glasses, small appliances, etc.). We have a container for your donations on our Mission Table in the Prayer Room. **Please note that the HUB currently has a need for dresser-type furniture and kitchen tables.**