

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2024 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Assurance" (*) Indicates that all are invited to stand

J. Bert Carlson

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

- One: The disciples argued about their own importance to Jesus.
- All: Who would be first in his sight, they wanted to know?
- One: And Jesus took a small child and placed the child in their midst.

Soloist: Singing verse 1 of "Like A Child"

- One: Whoever receives this child in my name, receives me, he said.
- All: And whoever receives me, receives the one who sent him.
- One: And they looked at the small child and wondered.

Soloist: singing verse 2 of "Like A Child"

- One: Lord, help us to open our eyes to your love.
- All: Remind us again, Lord, that we are called to ministries of service.
- One: Get us ready to share your love with all your children.

Soloist: singing verse 3 of "Like A Child"

*GATHERING HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" #419 New Century Hymnal vv.1-2 (For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack) Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices, Who from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed, And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)

God of patience and mercy, we come to you, seeking to serve, but when things get difficult, we often shy away from the duty and the opportunity.

Forgive us, gracious God. Strengthen us and give us courage to truly be your disciples, not counting the rewards, but rejoicing in the work. *(silent confession)*

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Hear the good news! Receive the blessings of boundless grace which God offers to us all. **Thanks be to God!**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Now Thank We All Our God" *v.3* All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given, To Christ and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven, The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore, For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM "Be Still" Allen Pote

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 9:30-37 A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!** Pew Bible p. 821

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant" #539 New Century Hymnal (For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack) Won't you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you; Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on the journey. We are travelers on the road; We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you in the shadow of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh, I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Won't you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you; Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

RESPONDING

We respond to God's Word through our prayers and our gifts.

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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 "The Lord is My Shepherd" Arr. Harold DeCou (A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE #778 New Century Hymnal

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMISSIONING HYMN "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" #543 Glory to God Hymnal



POSTLUDE

"Prelude in Classic Style" Gordon Young

SENDING With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world. Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from www.ministrymatters.com

Music reprinted by permission OneLicense A-722326

Worship Leaders September 22, 2024

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann Organist: Jim Threlkeld Liturgist: Diane Muehlenbeck Ushers: One Body Ministry Team YouTube: Andy Karcher Tech team: Jim Richmann, Ron Geisel, Kristine Wentzien, Kathleen Mees



Thanks for your contribution to the ministries of Hope UCC!