

September 4, 2011 SERVICE OF WORSHIP

10:30 am

12th Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green

Preparation for Worship and Announcements

Dr. Mary Lynn Polk, Lay Leader

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.

*Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Trinity

Julia Baker

Prelude

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

*Call to Worship

John DeLoach

Leader: Tell the whole congregation of God's people: This is a day for new beginnings.

People: **This is a time of God's appearing. This is the moment for faithful response.**

Leader: Praise God in the assembly of the faithful. Make melody to God and sing a new song.

People: **Praise God for life enriched by love. Praise God for love that fulfills God's law.**

Leader: This is the hour to wake from our sleep. The energy of God's love fills this place.

People: **Here we claim our identity as Christians. Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.**

*Hymn No. 383

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

Beginnings

*Invocation

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

This is a festival day, glorious God, a day of remembering your faithfulness through the centuries, a time for celebrating your vibrant presence with us, a pause of anticipation for the seasons yet to be. We rejoice at the assurance that you take pleasure in us, that we are known by you, called by you to live honorably and humbly, in the spirit of Christ. We exalt your name and sing for joy, knowing that we can trust you for the guidance and direction we need. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith No. 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth; and 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 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.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1-14

Page 72 (OT) in pew Bibles

New Testament Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Page 197 (NT) in pew Bibles

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Kumbaya
Chancel Choir

arr. Paul Sjouland

A Litany for Labor Day (Please see insert)

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (In unison)

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.

Offering

Offertory

My Father's World
Chancel Choir

Aaron David Miller

*Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Old 100th

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Children's Message

Shell Dula

The children of Main Street UMC are collecting money to fund a llama for \$150 from Heifer International. As the children come to the front of the Sanctuary for a special message, they are invited to bring change to help in buying the llama. If any adults want to contribute, please pass your money to a child as they come forward. Following Children's Time, 3-year-olds through Kindergarteners may leave the Sanctuary for Extended Session.

*Hymn No. 408

The Gift of Love

Gift of love

*†Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

Page 24 (NT) in pew Bibles

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Life in a Community"

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

*Hymn No. 569

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

Message

*Benediction

Leader: Sisters and brothers, whom will you see this week? What will they need? Will you dare to see their need and love them with the love of Christ? In Christ's name go and be good news!

People: **We are sent in Christ's name! Thanks be to God!**

*Benediction Response No. 666

Shalom to You

SHALOM

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

*Postlude

†Sermon Text

**Please stand if you are able*

Nursery Provided

A Litany for Labor Day

- L. Let us pray to the Lord of all creation, from whom comes life and work and purpose. Almighty God, when you formed us lovingly out of the dust of the earth, you breathed into us the breath of life and gave us work and purpose for living.
- C. **You placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden to till and keep it.**
- L. Through our work, you made us co-creators with you, shaping the world in which we live.
- C. **You gave dignity to our labor by sending your Son to labor with us.**
- L. By our labor, you enrich the world.
- C. **By our labor, we enjoy the fruits of creation.**
- L. By our labor, we find direction and purpose.
- C. **By our labor, our families are made secure.**
- L. For providing varieties of work and for blessing us by our labor:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**
- L. For those who plow the field and those who make the plow; for farmers and farm workers, for steelworkers and machinists; for those who work with their hands and those who move the earth:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**
- L. For those who tend the sick and those who seek new cures; for doctors and nurses, for scientists and technicians; for those who keep notes and those who transcribe:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**
- L. For those who think and those who create; for inventors and explorers, for artists and musicians; for those who write books and those who entertain:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**
- L. For those who work in offices and those who work in warehouses; for secretaries and receptionists, for stockers and bookkeepers; for those who market products and for those who move them:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**
- L. For those who inspire our minds and those who motivate us; for teachers and preachers, for public servants and religious servants; those who help the poor and those who work with our children:
- C. **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: For children whose play is the work of learning to live in the world.

C: **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: For those who seek work but have not found it. For those whose work is not yet what it may be but who still seek, that their gifts may be more fully shared.

C: **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: For those whose labor is tidiness and cleanliness; for custodians and sanitation workers, for drycleaners and maids; for those who produce cleaning products and those who use them:

C: **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: For those who sail the waves and those who fly the skies; for captains and attendants, for astronauts and deep sea divers; for those who chart and those who navigate:

C: **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: For those whose work is unpaid, who offer what they can to enrich the lives of others through time, talents, skill, strength, and love.

C: **We give you thanks, O God**

L: You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

C: **You provide us opportunities to use them, for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.**

L: Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

C: **Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.**

L: Look kindly upon the unemployed and the disabled.

C: **Give health to the sick, hope to the bereaved.**

L: Keep us from laboring only for greed.

C: **Make us loving and responsible in all that we do.**

L: Creator Lord, you are the source of all wisdom and purpose, you are the blessing of those who labor. Be with us in our labor to guide and govern our world. Give all men and women work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**