



Valley United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 19, 2023

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Consecration Sunday

Thank you for joining in this worship service! We hope you will enter in the spirit of worship from wherever you are, and whenever you join. We'll follow this order of worship. You'll have to decide whether to stand () and sit when invited! If you're joining in real time, you can add your comments and/or prayer requests in the comments on our livestream [at this link](#). Words in **bold print** are read together. Words from our United Methodist Hymnal (UMH), The Faith We Sing songbook (FWS) and other sources will appear on screen. We're so glad you're here!*

Gathering Music

Meditation on Psalm 84
Now Thank We All Our God
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Smith
arr. by Oley
arr. by Koury

Welcome

*Call to Worship

O Lord, our God,
creator of our land,
our earth, the trees, the animals and humans,
all is for your honor.

**The drums beat it out, and people sing about it,
and they dance with noisy joy
that you are the Lord.**

You also have pulled other continents out of the sea.
What a wonderful world you have made out of wet mud
and what beautiful human beings!

We thank you for all the beauty of this earth.

The grace of your creation is like a cool day between rainy seasons.

We drink in your creation with our eyes.

We listen to the birds' jubilee with our ears.

How strong and good and sure your earth smells,
and everything that grows here.

We drink in your creation and cannot get enough of it.

Bless our land and people.

Prepare us for the service we should render. Amen.

Worship & Song Leader's Edition (2011), 48, adapted

*Opening Hymn

Morning Has Broken (UMH 145)

1-Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2-Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

3-Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

*Opening Prayer

**Days pass and the years vanish,
and we walk sightless among miracles.
Lord, fill our eyes with seeing and our minds with knowing;
let your goodness, like lightning, illumine the darkness
in which we walk.
Help us to see, wherever we gaze, the residue of your glory.
Let us reach out for holiness and exclaim in wonder:
How filled with awe is this place, and we did not know it!**

Ibid., 57

*Peace

The peace of Christ is with you.
And also with you.

Time with Children

Scripture Reading Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
life for evermore.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands* The Back Row

Scripture Reading Matthew 25.14-15a

For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Message Everything Is Holy Now

Call to Prayer *What We Need Is Here*

Time of Prayer

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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.**

Time of Offering and Anointing

Offertory *Siciliano* Purcell

*Blessing of Our Commitments

God has entrusted rich resources to each of us us, given in Creation and given anew each day. On this day, we give our offerings and our pledges for the church's mission and ministries throughout the year to come. We give, knowing that all that we have has come from God who will continue to provide. We pledge, knowing that there is much still to be done as witnesses to God's goodness. Let us put our hearts into all our pledges as signs of our trust and faithfulness.

At this time, you are invited to hold a symbol of your pledge in your hand as we consecrate our pledges together.

*Consecration of Our Pledges

Gracious God, bless our mutual commitment to build and nurture this faith community and to spread the good gospel. Grant that our discipleship might supply not only the needs of our mission and ministry, but that it might overflow with many thanksgivings and surprising gifts to You. Grant that we may answer your call with willing hearts and serve in the body of Christ, as our ancestors once did, with an eye to your vision for heaven here on earth. In Jesus' holy name, we pray, Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication for the Offerings of Today and this Week

God, we bring all we have, and all we are, and all we feel into your care. In your company, we pray for collective wisdom. That you will guide us in the service of love. And that our commitments to our neighbors—especially those most afraid, most alone, or most vulnerable to violence—will be renewed with fervor. May it be so among us. **Amen.**

*Response *What We Need Is Here* (on screen)

*Closing Song *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* (on screen) (tune of UMH 685)

1-God, whose giving knows no ending,
From Your rich and endless store:
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
Costly cross, grave's shattered door.
Gifted by You, we turn to You,
Offering up ourselves in praise:
Thankful song shall rise forever,
Gracious donor of our days.

2-Skills and time are ours for serving,
that your will on earth be done:
All at peace in health and freedom,
Races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
Lest we strive for self alone:
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

3-Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your earth be done:
Ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call.
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
honoring You by loving all.

4-Lend your joy to all our giving,
Let it light our pilgrim way;
From the night of anxious keeping,
loose us into generous day.
Then when years on earth are over,
And we've lived our human span,
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming,
all our stewardship began.

*Benediction

Postlude

Allegro, from Concerto No. 1

Handel

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun., Nov. 19

Consecration Sunday

**9:00 a.m. Worship in Person and Livestream
Thanksgiving Bake Sale**

10:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

Thurs., Nov. 23

Thanksgiving Day

Sun., Nov. 26

9:00 a.m. Worship in Person and Livestream

10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Serving us today: Pastor Lee Schott, Pastor; Karen Hutzell, Organist; Joyce Templeman, Pianist; Bob Gowdey, Choir Director; Nathan and Lynne Henn, Ushers; Jaden Vega and Kim Tyrrell, Nursery Attendants; Teresa Cleveland and Barb VandeVenter, Fellowship; Jaci Vega and Starr Himes, Tech Team; Jaci Vega, Livestream Greeter.

November Bake Sale: It's here! Our traditional Thanksgiving bake sale will be held after worship **TODAY**. Be sure to "shop" at the sale this morning. This year's sale will benefit various mission projects at Valley UMC.

November Giving Tree: Contributions for West Des Moines Human Services Grocery Funds WDMHS has asked that we provide funding to be used by them to purchase and distribute grocery vouchers that can be used in several locations. It will be easy to contribute, make your check to Valley UMC mark your check WDM Human Services-food vouchers. These funds will be due by November 20 to be available for Thanksgiving meals.

AND WDM Human Services Adopt a Family Our mission team has adopted a family of five for whom we'll provide gifts and grocery money ahead of Christmas. The mission team will do the shopping, but we need to raise about **\$600** for this purpose **by December 12**; watch our progress starting next week! Feel free to take an ornament from the Giving Tree to remind you to return with cash or a check (payable to Valley UMC and marked for Adopt a Family). Thanks for your support!

December CFUM Meal at Trinity Las Americas: Valley will be providing 125 "to go" meals for the CFUM Supper Club **Tuesday December 5**. We need assistance for the following:

10 dozen cookies and 5 cases of 24 pack bottled water

Meal prep at Valley UMC Monday, December 4: 10 am - noon: 5 persons

Meal packaging/serving Tuesday, December 5 at Trinity Methodist: 5 persons

Please let the office know if you can help. If you have questions, contact Deb Stensrud.

Care Packages for Our College Students: It's getting close to December, when we'll send care packages to our five college students, and we will appreciate your help! Please be on the lookout for ****small** items** that would be fun for our college students. Pick up **five** (one for each student), bring them here **by November 26** and we'll get them packed and sent the week after Thanksgiving. Better yet, write some short notes of encouragement that we can tuck into the packages! Look for the table in the Fellowship Hall where we're collecting and preparing this annual gift! If you'd like to assist with postage and mailing, let us know!