



FIFTH AVE. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
323 South 5th Avenue  
West Bend WI 53095

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**Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**  
August 13, 2023

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Polly Bertelsen & Sherry Gerhartz, Singers  
Alana Dalton, Liturgist  
Deanna Gibeau, Organist  
Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Jean B. Schmidt, Retired Elder

**JOIN US** IN PERSON OR ONLINE  
Sundays, 9:30 A.M.

**WELCOME TO FIFTH AVE. UMC**

Whether you're just beginning to explore your faith or have been following Christ for years, you and your whole family can belong at Fifth Ave. UMC

**\*Note: L: denotes worship "Leader" ~**  
**P: denotes "People"**

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~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

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Prelude: "What Wondrous Love is This"

Arr. Philip Keveren

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~WELCOME & CENTERING~

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**GREETING:**

Pastor: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**CENTERING MUSIC (Duet)**  
Gerhartz

Polly Bertelsen and Sherry

"How Beautiful"

Twila Paris/Arr. Stan Pethel

**\*INVOCATION:**

Pastor: Give us, our Father, a sense of your presence as we gather now for worship. Grant us gratitude as we remember your goodness, penitence as we remember our sins, and joy as we remember your love; and enable us to life up our hearts in humble prayer and frequent praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Beloved disciples, welcome. As we gather, what are you seeking?

**P: We seek God's presence all around us.**

L: Beloved disciples, if God's presence is all around us, what are you seeking?

**P: We seek to recognize God's presence among us.**

L: Beloved disciples, if God is among you, what are you seeking?

**P: We seek God in the faces of family, friends, and neighbors.**

L: Beloved disciples, if God is in the face of your neighbor, what are you seeking?

**P: We seek God in the search and the work for peace and wholeness for all God's creation.**

All: As we gather today, may we meet God in our seeking and in our finding.

Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN: "In Christ There Is No East or West"**

UMH #548

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~WE PROCLAIM~

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Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b~ NRSV (Unison)

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. 4 Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually. 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered, 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones. 7 He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. 8 He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a

**thousand generations, 9 the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, 10 which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, 11 saying, “To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance.” 45 that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the LORD!**

**Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33**

**~ NRSV**

**Pastor**

**Jean**

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. 25 And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

28 Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” 29 He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” 32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

**L: The Word of God for the People of God.**

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON:**

**“When Jesus Shows Up”**

**Pastor Jean**

**ECUMEN CHOIR**

**“Wade in the Water” Arr. Marty Gross**

**”He Never Failed Me Yet” by Robert Ray**

**Soloists: Al Marschner, Bill Bailey, Marty Gross,**

**John Grundahl, Rick Gilbertson, Jim Vorpapel**

**Dave Bertelsen, Director**

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**~PRAYERS & CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE~**

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**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Gracious Creator, we seek your blessing, knowing that we have not earned it. In our faults, we seek your blessing. In our sins, we seek your forgiveness. In our weakness, we seek your strength. In our sorrow, we seek your consolation. In our trials, we seek your justice. In our pain, we seek your peace. Hear our prayers, O God, and make our hearts new. Amen.

**\*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS:**

May Almighty God in mercy receive our confessions of sorrow and faith, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **PASTORAL PRAYERS:**

Pastor: God of all goodness:

People: hear our prayer.

### **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 trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### **~INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS, TITHES, & OFFERINGS~**

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**\*DOXOLOGY:**           **"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**           **UMH 94**  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER: (unison)**

Generous, giving God: the gifts we present this day are supposed to represent the best of our discipleship. Why then do we hide what we give, and why do we worry about who might know? Grant us the boldness we need to move out of the dark and proclaim our decision to be Christ's disciples to all, to shout it from the rooftops. May we speak to those we know and even to strangers of the love of Jesus without fear. May the way we live our lives be a proclamation of our decision to follow Christ! In His holy name, we pray. Amen.           (Matt 10:24-39)

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**                           **"Here I Am, Lord"**                           **UMH #593**

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### **~SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION~**

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**\*Pastor:** Beloved family of Christ, the search is not over. The seeking has only just begun. Yet through it all and in it all, God is with us. May we go today trusting that we are found in God and living so that God is found in us. Amen.

**\*POSTLUDE: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"   William Bradbury/ P. Keveren**

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**The flowers on the altar are given by Tom & Sandy Blumenberg in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary which was on Aug. 11.**

**The bulletins are given by Jeri Bowerman.**

Please join us for continued Fellowship  
during our Coffee Hour in the lounge.