

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Celebration of Worship – *Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost - August 23, 2020*

PRELUDE.....*Christos Patterakis*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
Roy Perry

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING.....Dr. David Hobson

† CALL TO WORSHIP..... See text page.....Dr. David Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”.....See text page

CELEBRATION OF LIFE.....See text page.....Reception of Confirmation Class
Dr. Pat Day, Lee & Alicia DuCote

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 881.....Debby Williams

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Arise, My Soul, Arise*.....Rebecca Vacha, soprano
Text: Charles Wesley/Music: Dan Forrest Elizabeth Beck, violin
Alison Beck, piano

† SCRIPTURE READING.....II Corinthians 12:7-10.....Debby Williams
See scripture reading on Text Page

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† GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

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JOYS & CONCERNS.....Dr. Pat Day

MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Dr. Pat Day

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE.....*Plenteous Grace with Thee is Found*.....Wesleyans

["Jesus, Lover of My Soul": Stanza 4]

ABERYSTWYTH

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Debby Williams

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*How Can I Keep from Singing*.....Wesleyans

arr. Taylor Davis Hannah Hobson, oboe
Elizabeth Beck, violin
Alison Beck, piano

† DoxologyNo. 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!*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Ephesians 2:8-9.....Dr. Pat Day

See scripture reading on Text Page

MESSAGE.....**GRACE HAPPENS HERE**.....Dr. Pat Day

I. First, when grace happens generosity and kindness takes place.

II. Second, when grace happens you are not only called to change but given the power to do it.

III. Third, when grace happens you can see your enemy as God's child and revenge is God's job.

IV. Fourth, when grace happens you are given the power to receive love and the power to give it because you have a new heart from God.

V. Finally, when grace happens you can live boldly and courageously in the face of any challenge, choice or conflict.

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Grace Greater than Our Sin”.....No. 365
(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)

BENEDICTIONDr. Pat Day

SENDING FORTH.....*A Covenant Prayer*.....Wesleyans
[Excerpt]
Dan Forrest

POSTLUDE.....*Fiat Lux*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
[Eternal Light]
Théodore Dubois

Crucifer: Andrew Hobson; Acolytes: Grace Byrd, Mary Scott Sevier

**Call to Worship and Hymn of Praise
"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

Leader (spoken): Glory to God, and praise and love
Be ever, ever given,
By saints below and saints above,
The church in earth and heaven.

**All (Spoken): On this glad day the glorious Sun
Of Righteousness arose;
On my benighted soul he shone
And filled it with repose.**

Leader (spoken): Sudden expired the legal strife,
'Twas then I ceased to grieve;
My second, real, living life
I then began to live.

**All (Spoken): Then with my heart I first believed,
Believed with faith divine,
Power with the Holy Ghost received
To call the Savior mine.**

Leader (spoken): I felt my Lord's atoning blood
Close to my soul applied;
Me, me he loved, the Son of God,
For me, for me he died!

**All (Spoken): I found and owned his promise true,
Ascertained of my part,
My pardon passed in heaven I knew
When written on my heart.**

All Singing

[Acolytes and Confirmands Process]

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;
Anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

Congregational Response to Confirmands:

"We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to this congregation of the United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that, surrounded by steadfast love, you may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal."

Hymn of Invitation No. 365
"Grace Greater than Our Sin"

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain:

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.

Refrain

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,
Brighter than snow you may be today.

Refrain

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face,
Will you this moment his grace receive?

Refrain

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.

II Corinthians 12:7-10

"Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Ephesians 2:8-9

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast."