



FIFTH AVE. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

323 South 5th Ave. West Bend WI 53095

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost ~ August 7, 2022

LOOKING AT LIFE THROUGH GOD'S GLASSES

SERMON SERIES -

Adapted from a sermon series by Rev. Dr. John Mathison



“Seeing the World Through God’s Colored Glasses”

The love of God in Jesus Christ calls us to love others as God loves them. This means we need to view others based not on outward appearances or circumstances, but as people who are loved by God and have value in God’s eyes. We need to see people through God’s colored glasses.

Kelly Louk, Liturgist

Deanna Gibeau, Organist

Youth Praise Band: Brookelynn Bodden, Kherington Bodden,

Emma Louk, Payton Louk

Rev. Clarissa L. Martinelli, Senior Pastor

“No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You're Welcome Here”

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

~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

PRELUDE: "How Can I Keep From Singing" Arr. Lani Smith/Tune by Robert Lowry

~ WORDS OF WELCOME ~

GREETING:

Pastor: Our sermon "Looking at Life Through God's Glasses" continues as we "See the World Through God's Colored Glasses." When we see with God's Colored Glasses, we look at our families and friends differently. We see our daily work differently. We view our church differently. We see the world around us differently. We open our hearts and reach out to everyone in love. We find ways to reconcile our differences with other people. Come and see as we worship together!

Pastor Clarissa: 847-721-1826; Ms. Ellen Johnson: 262-339-7673

Email: rev.cmartinelli6@gmail.com

~5th AVE. JUNCTION - WHERE FAITH AND FAMILY COME TOGETHER~

HYMN:	"Jesus Loves Me" vs. #1	UMH 191
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~COME, LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER~

CENTERING MUSIC:	"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"	TFWS 2129
	"Give Thanks"	TFWS 2036
	"Halle, Halle Halle"	TFWS 2026

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

L: In Jesus Christ, there is a new creation.

P: Everything old has passed away. Everything has become new.

L: This newness is from God who has reconciled us through Jesus Christ.

All: Rejoice and be glad! Everything has become new.
for all God's blessings.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

All: We confess, God of Faith, that we ask about someone's background to see if they are like us, while you look at where their heart is grounded. We examine another's good looks or athletic prowess, while you take notice of how they reach out to those who are different. We gaze at the size of another's house or car or portfolio to judge how successful they are, and you observe whether or not they have faith the size of the smallest seed. Forgive us, Anointing God, for looking at those around us with human eyes, and not seeing them as created in your image. As you shape us into new people, give us new eyes, new hearts, new lives to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE:**

Liturgist: This is the good news: no longer must we walk the old paths of sin and death. Christ has come to take our old ways on himself, and to fill us with new life in God.

P: Now, we know we are forgiven; now, we know we are at peace; now, we can step forward in faith, to live with our God forever. Amen

***HYMN:**

“Sanctuary”

TFWS 2164

***~WE PROCLAIM~**

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 ~New Living Translation (NLT)

So, we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin,[e] so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

P: Praise to the Living Word.

***HYMN:**

“He Has Made Me Glad”

TFWS 2270

SERMON:

“LOOKING AT LIFE THROUGH GOD’S GLASSES: –

“Seeing the World Through God’s Colored Glasses” Pastor Clarissa

~ PRAYERS & CONCERNS~

Pastor: Lord in your mercy

People: hear our prayer.

Lord’s prayer: Words on Screen

~HOLY COMMUNION~

Pastor: The Table has been prepared - for us! This is not my Table; it is not the church's - this is the Table offered to us by our God. So, come to this Feast. Come, if your faith is blossoming and full, and come, if it is but a tiny seed planted in your heart; come, if you always show up for this Meal, and come, if this is the your very first taste; come, if you have always walked with Christ, and come, if you have stumbled along the way. But come - for our God awaits to serve you with joy, with affirmation, with hope, with peace.

L: May the Planter of seeds be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Open your hearts, people of God, to the One who fills them.

P: May God place grace, hope, and joy deep within us.

L: Let us sing our praises to our God.

P: We join all creation in songs of laughter and love.

Liturgist: We do not know when or how it happened, Holy Gardener, but you planted the seeds of your imagination. The Spirit gently nurtured them with the waters and warmth of life; the Word whispered their names and called them into being. All that is good, all that is true, all that is beautiful sprang forth in that wonder we call creation. You shaped us in your image, breathing hope and life into us, that we might enjoy your good gifts. But, tasting the temptations of sin, our growth was stunted, as we became a rich harvest for death. But you do not see us as we do, and so sent the prophets to sow the words which call us back to you. When we continued to follow only what we could see, you sent Jesus to be among us, so we might recognize your love for us.

So, with those who walk by faith in this time and in this place, and with those who are at home with you, we offer our hearts' desire to you:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord of grace and glory. All creation is filled with the tapestry of your love. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes with your new creation. Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Holy are you, God who fulfills all your plans, and blessed is Jesus Christ, the Seed of salvation. From the beginning of creation, your Word sang of your hopes for us; until the end of time, your Child will urge us on to love you. He set aside his glory, to become one of us, so that we might discover your grace which overflows from your heart upon us. No longer living for himself, he died, once and for all, for us, so that, as he was raised to new life, so we might become the new creation, walking by faith into your kingdom.

As we now see him through the eyes of redemption, as we now remember him through hearts of hope, we speak of that mystery we call our faith

All: In death, Christ became our life; in life, Christ shapes us into new creatures; in glory, Christ will come to fulfill all God's plans.

Pastor: To what can we compare this Feast, and the simple gifts you have transformed into the Bread of life and the Cup of grace? As you poured out your Spirit into all creation, pour out your blessings upon those who gather around your Table of life.

As the bread fills us with those seeds of hope and peace for all people, may we go forth to offer the harvest of justice and righteousness to all who have been mistreated in our time.

As the cup touches our lips, may we shout for joy of your love, calling out to all the lonely and lost, no longer regarding them from the world's point of view, but recognizing them as our sisters and brothers of the kingdom.

***POSTLUDE:** “The Church’s One Foundation” Samuel Wesley/Arr. Ron Boud

The flowers and the bulletins are given by Kris Lieven in gratitude of the people of Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church.

Join us for Fellowship Time in the lounge after the service today as we celebrate the birthday of Pastor Clarissa whose birthday was Aug. 3rd.