



First United Methodist Church

Worship Guide for Sunday, July 19, 2020

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Creator has planted seeds in all of us.

People: May we nurture good deeds and loving-kindness.

Leader: Jesus is calling us to bear spiritual fruit.

People: May we bless and build up others for the reign of God.

Leader: The Holy Spirit moves in us, encouraging us to grow.

People: May we be nurtured, may we be blessed, and may we grow in this time of worship.

INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: O Lord, You have searched us and known us.

People: You know when we cultivate kindness, and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world. You know, too, when we sow seeds of discord, and our actions choke out generosity and grace.

Leader: When we produce more weed than fruit, forgive us.

People: Forgive our selfish ways. Plant within us gifts of love and mercy, so that we might live faithfully in your kingdom, bearing fruit that enriches the lives of all Your children, and bringing honor and glory to Your name.

(silent reflection)

Leader: We cannot run from God’s Spirit. We cannot hide from God’s presence. Wherever we may go, we are in God’s hands. My friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: God remembers us and leads us in ways of truth and justice. In Jesus Christ, we are loved, restored, and forgiven. Thanks be to God. AMEN.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

MORNING PRAYER and LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

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

HYMN OF REFLECTION

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

SERMON

“Kingdom In Progress”

Mr. Steve Reis

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Jesus Messiah”

BENEDICTION