



First United Methodist Church

Worship Guide for Sunday, August 16, 2020

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another.

People: We love because God first loved us.

Leader: There is no greater love than this:

People: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Leader: This is the new commandment in Christ:

People: As Jesus loves us, so let us love one another.

INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

"O, How I Love Jesus"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Holy God, On the cross You redeemed us; You sent Your Spirit to dwell in us; and You set us apart to be witnesses to Your great love;

People: but at times we forget that we bear the marks of Your grace, and act as though You have no claim on our lives.

Leader: You are forever faithful to Your promises,

People: but we have broken Your law of love.

Leader: We hoard Your blessings,

People: rather than seek ways to bless those in need.

Leader: We choose what is comfortable and safe,

People: rather than listen to the pain and concerns of our brothers and sisters.

Leader: We sit quietly in fear,

People: rather than speak out for justice and peace.

Leader: Wash us again with Your mercy and grace.

People: Forgive us, Lord. Transform our hearts, that our lives may bear the fruit of Your love, and our joy may be complete.

(silent reflection)

Leader: Our God meets us with perfect love and gives us new life. Friends, remember the good news of the gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ, love abounds, and we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. AMEN

GOSPEL READING

John 15:5-11

MORNING PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Gary 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

"Here Is Love"

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

SERMON

"God Is Love"

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"Reckless Love"

BENEDICTION