



First United Methodist Church

Worship Guide for Sunday, August 2, 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With great rejoicing, we enter the house of the Lord!

People: We come to praise the One who is our refuge and our strength.

Leader: Lift up your eyes, for God comes to us with compassion and love.

People: We bring our burdened and broken spirits, seeking God's presence and healing.

Leader: Rejoice! For the God who created you comes to redeem you and make you whole.

People: We joyfully celebrate the Living God, who embraces us with mercy and calls us to new life.

INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Love Lifted Me"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Holy God, because we live our lives in comfort and security, we must confess that we are often blinded to the possibility that we are even sinning.

People: We confess our pride that dares not admit our mistakes.

Leader: We confess our selfishness that can see nothing but our own desires.

People: We confess our self-righteousness that accuses others but denies our own faults.

Leader: We confess our callousness that causes us not to care. .

People: We confess our defiance that does not regret our harmful actions.

Leader: We confess our evasion that seeks to rationalize our behavior.

People: We confess our coldness of heart that hardens us to repentance.

Leader: God, we are sinners; have mercy on us.

People: Forgive us, merciful God. Open our hearts and minds to follow Your ways of love, justice, and peace.

(silent reflection)

Leader: As we turn from our self-centered ways and open ourselves to God's mercy, we find meaning for our lives and hope for our future. My friends, hear and remember the good news of the Gospel:

All: In the work and ways of Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, we are forgiven and freed to live as His servants in the world. Thanks be to God. AMEN

GOSPEL READING

John 8:1-11

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

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 1:1-4

SERMON

"God Is Light"

Rev. Gary Ihfe

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"The Wonderful Cross"

BENEDICTION