



First United Methodist Church

Worship Guide for Sunday, September 20, 2020

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord said: I am the Lord your God. I carried you out of the land of Egypt where you were slaves.

People: Honor your father and mother, just as the Lord commanded you.

Leader: Then you will live a long time in the land God is giving you, and things will go well with you.

People: As children, we will obey our parents, for this pleases the Lord.

Leader: As parents, we will correct our children with compassion, and teach them the beauty of God.

People: As the people of God, we will live as the family of God, guided by the love of God.

INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Our Father in Heaven, You created us, redeemed us, and brought us into Your family.

People: Holy God, we confess that we often turn from Your presence and choose to go our own way.

Leader: Like young children, we are egocentric, thinking we are independent and can “do it myself.”

People: Like teenagers, we roll our eyes when confronted by Your words that are meant to guide us and protect us.

Leader: Like younger adults, we search for success, often without regard to Your teachings, guidance, and care.

People: Like settled adults, we are comfortable and resist change, refusing to recognize that Your Holy Spirit is still at work bringing reconciliation and unity to all Your children.

Leader: Forgive us, Father when we isolate ourselves from You and each other.

People: Teach us the joy of family, guided by the Spirit, and bound together by the love of Jesus, our friend and brother.

(a time for personal reflection)

Leader: God the Father loves us unconditionally, and by the Spirit calls us all back into the family of faith. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: By faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and restored. Alleluia! AMEN

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 20:10-22

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

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 20:12

SERMON

“Honor Your Parents”

Rev. Gary Ihfe

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Good, Good Father”

BENEDICTION