



First Sunday after Pentecost

June 12, 2022



Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor
Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director

Centering Thoughts

Every day I have the chance to pick up a needle and some thread and add to the story. To stitch together something beautiful and unique, to patch a small scrap of fabric to the story, to the Story of God, that will be retold again and again for all of eternity. — Jerusalem Jackson Greer

When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed. — Maya Angelou

This is the only perfection there is, the perfection of helping others. This is the only thing we can do that has any lasting meaning. This is why we're here. To make each other feel safe. — Andre Agassi

Acceptance is simply love in practice. When you love, you accept, when you lack love, you judge.
— Abhijit Naskar

Love doesn't mean a state of perfect caring. To love someone is to strive to accept that person exactly the way he or she is, right here and now—and to go on caring through joyful times and through times that may bring us pain. — Fred Rogers

Acceptance of others is acceptance of yourself. — Benjamin Brown

Welcome!

Prelude

Invitation to Worship

Ken Sansome

God of Life, live in us so we may live in you.

Blow through us with the love of the Holy Spirit.

We are your people, united in Christ.

Give us divine energy to build community, peace, and justice on earth. Amen.

Hymn: *O God of Every Nation*

UMH #435

Scripture:

Acts 9:36-43

Prayer

Pastor Lura

The Lord's Prayer

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: *One Bread, One Body*

UMH #620

Prayer for Holy Communion

May the God of compassion be with you!

And also with you!

Each morning, God feeds us with steadfast love.

Each day, our hearts are filled with God's call to serve.

Children of God, sing your praises to God all our days.

We lift our joy to the One who is the dwelling place of all generations.

Refusing to let chaos become our dwelling place, God of the ages, you called forth creation. Whether in the blink of an eye, or in moments spanning thousands of years, deep valleys of hope were carved, carpeted with grace renewed each morning. You created humankind in your image, knowing us face to face in love. But we turned our gaze towards that land of temptation, chasing the false dreams offered by death. Caring so deeply for us, you sent prophets to call us home, but their words withered in our hearts. So you sent Jesus to bring the message of good news, and to lead us to the promised land of eternal life. Therefore, with those filled with the spirit of wisdom, and those who were full of themselves, with saints and sinners, prophets and pharisees, we sing of your everlasting joy:

Blessed is the One who comes calling us to love:

to love you without reservation, to love others without expectation, to love ourselves without self-condemnation. Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you, God our Peace, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Way of life. Mindful of your hopes for us, he came, so we might discover you in our neighbor. Soul of your soul, he came, so we might overflow with your grace. Loving us more than himself, he came, to defeat sin and destroy death's grip on us, so we might spend eternity embraced in your life. With remembrance of his life, in the joy of the resurrection, in anticipation of his return, we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

Christ came, that we might know God's love;

Christ died, that our souls might be healed;

Christ will come again, that our hearts will be united with God's.

Pour out your Spirit of wisdom on the gifts of this Table, and on those who prepare to feast on your bounty of grace. As the bread fills us with your love and hope, we would go out to love our neighbors with hearts shaped by your joy. As the cup refreshes our minds and souls, we would show our everlasting love for you, by serving the lost and forgotten with lives molded by your compassion. Amen.

Song: *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter
& Eric McKirdy

Closing Blessing

Pastor Lura

Postlude



Announcements:

~ The ushers will direct those on the right half of the sanctuary when to go up for Holy Communion. You will go up the center aisle, receive a piece of bread and eat it, take a cup of juice and drink it, place the empty cup in the basket, and return by the side aisle. Those on the left half of the sanctuary will then do the same. If you are unable to walk up for Communion, when everyone in line has been served, please raise your hand and Communion will be brought to you.

~ The Bible study will meet in the Fireside Room (next to the large Fellowship Hall room) about 15 minutes after the conclusion of the worship service.

~ The Juneteenth Celebration and Black Business Expo is Saturday, June 18, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Linn-Benton Community College courtyard. Contact Pastor Lura at 503-269-1714 if you'd like to go with a group from our church.

~ Could you occasionally be one of the ushers (greeters) on Sunday morning? There is an ushers meeting after the worship service next Sunday, June 19, in the Fireside Room.

~ Our June special offering is for Jackson Street Youth Services. They work with ages 10-24 and provide housing for youth aged 10-17. Note on your check that it is for "Jackson Street," or donate through our website at albanymethodist.org.

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~ The church office is open Tue, Wed, Thur: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. ~

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