Grace United Methodist Church

September 3, 2023

Greeting Rick Schlee

L: This is the day that the Lord has made!

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Bell

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

by Elizabeth Tomboulian, used with permission.

"May the Words"

Elizabeth Tomboulian

*Call to Worship

L: In all the earth, God's name be praised!

P: We look all around and celebrate, for God made each of us!

L: God gives humans responsibility and authority over the cosmos.

P: How amazing, to be created and called by Almighty God!

L: Praise our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer!

P: Let's give glory to God in this hour of worship!

*Song of Praise

"How Great Thou Art"

UMH 77

By Stuart Wesley Keene Hine ©1949, 1953 Stuart Hine Trust CIO Stuart K. Hine Trust CCLI #1365061

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; (Chorus)

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in; That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin; (Chorus) When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart, Then I shall bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! (Chorus)

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of infinite mercy, be with us in our need. When we neglect the wisdom of knowing our place in this world, forgive us. When we trade your peace and calls for unity for conflict and violence, heal us. When we forsake good character to join those who scoff at your ways, restore us. When we ignore your truth, and turn our back on your wisdom, ennoble and enlighten us. Forgive us and renew us, Lord, that we may abide in your truth and live in your love forever. Amen.

Silent Confession
Words of Assurance

*Passing the Peace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

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 glory, forever. Amen!

Special Music "Medicine for the World" Elizabeth Tomboulian music by Elizabeth Tomboulian, words by E Tomboulian and Alicia DiGiovanni, used with permission

Scripture Reading John 16:12-15

L: This is the word of God!

P: Thanks be to God!

*Song of Preparation "Spirit of the Living God" UMH 393
By Daniel Iverson ©1935, renewed 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #1365061

Daniel Iverson ©1935, renewed 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #1365061

Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me. Spirt of the living God, fall a-fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.

Message "Living Outside the Box" Rev. Sharon Pajak

We Share Our Gifts

Invitation to Giving Song During Offering

"Be Still"

Elizabeth Tomboulian

by Elizabeth Tomboulian, used with permission.

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

1 John 3:16-18

Words by Thomas Ken, 1674 adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978; Music Geistiche Kirchengesange, 1623, harm. by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906; Adaptation ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House OneLicense #A-739344

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Lord God, you love us more than we can imagine. We make our offerings to you in humble gratitude, and pray that you will bless them, and us, as we seek to live, not as the world lives, but as Christ-followers, loving and generous, standing up for what is right in your eyes. Amen.

Holy Communion

Song During Communion "A Place at the Table" by Shirley Erena Murray, 1998 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI #1365061

Elizabeth Tomboulian

*Hymn of Praise

"O Spirit of the Living God"

UMH 539

Words by Henry H. Tweedy, 1935; Music: Trad. English Melody, arr. by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906 ~ Public Domain

O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine, descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine. Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee. Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal, to preach to all thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.

Teach us to utter living words of truth which all may hear, the language all may understand when love speaks loud and clear; till every age and race and clime shall blend their creeds in one, and earth shall form one family by whom thy will is done.

So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save; so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave; and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole; till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal!

*Blessing

*Music for Going Forth Words and Music by Elizabeth Tomboulian; used with permission

"Grace"

Elizabeth Tomboulian