



## Welcome to Worship

Sunday, October 11, 2020

8:00 a.m. Worship Gathering

*Making Disciples Who Make a Difference in Seward and Beyond*



### Words of Welcome and Announcements:

- *Trunk-or-Treat will be on October 31 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.! Please sign-up to host a decorated trunk/table, to volunteer at the event, to donate candy, or to provide a monetary gift that will be used to purchase candy and supplies. You can sign-up or drop candy off in the front hallway of church or you can sign- up here: <https://bit.ly/SUMCTrunkorTreat>*
- *The Administrative Council will meet on Sunday, October 18 at Noon (12pm). Due to a change in Charge Conferences by the Bishop, this meeting will include review/approval of reports and budgets typically handled at Charge Conference.*
- *Thank you to all who served in various ways during the Seward UMC Workday on Saturday, Oct. 10! Thank you also for those who participated in the Virtual Crop Walk!*



Prelude

Dylan Teut

### Peace of Christ Blessing

Call to Worship (Maren C. Tirabassi & Joan Jordan Grant, "An Improbable Gift of Blessing," Cleveland Ohio: United Church Press, 1998, p.138.)

Leader: We come to worship with our sense of inadequate resources and fear for the future.

**People: And God blesses our possibilities into amazing bounty.**

Leader: We come to worship with sadness, grief, and worry about those dear to us.

**People: God welcomes our intercession and strengthens those for whom we pray.**

Leader: We come to worship with ourselves — imperfect, awkward, and unsure.

**People: And we discover that God is waiting for us, longing for us, loving us and willing us to love ourselves.**

## **Song of Praise – Morning Has Broken (UMH 145)**

<sup>1</sup> Morning has broken like the first morning  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the word!

<sup>2</sup> Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dew fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

<sup>3</sup> Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**Our Common Prayer** (Maren C. Tirabassi & Joan Jordan Grant, *"An Improbable Gift of Blessing,"* Cleveland Ohio: United Church Press, 1998, pp. 215-216)

O God, we come with everything that we are and have. Teach us to share not only out of the abundance of our lives but also out of our poverty. Strip our pretenses; still our need for attention; quiet our long prayers. Help us to give away our lives so we can find ourselves in you. Amen.

## **Children's Time**

**Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm**

### **Scripture Lesson - Ephesians 1:8b-12**

"With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us the mystery of God's will, according to God's good pleasure set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of God who accomplishes all things according to God's counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of God's glory."

### **Gospel Lesson - Luke 13:10-17**

"Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand upright. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood upright and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But Jesus answered, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie your ox or your donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham and Sarah whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When Jesus said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that Jesus was doing."

## **Response to Scripture – What Gift Can We Bring (UMH 87)**

<sup>1</sup> What gift can we bring, what present, what token?  
What words can convey it, the joy of this day?  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
what song can we offer in honor and praise?

<sup>2</sup> Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,  
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.  
Give thanks for the now, for study, for worship,  
we rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.

<sup>3</sup> Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,  
for knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,  
the Word is our promise always, forever,  
we rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.

<sup>4</sup> This gift we know bring, this present, this token,  
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
this song we now offer in honor and praise!

**Message**

**Generosity: Time**

**Pastor Mary Kay Totty**

**Prayer: Type in your joys/concerns or text to 402-810-8900.**

**Prayer Hymn – In God's Time (TFWS 2203)**

<sup>1</sup> In God's time, in God's time;  
God makes all things beautiful in God's time.  
God, please show me every day  
as you're teaching me your way,  
that you do just what you say in your time.

<sup>2</sup> In your time, in your time;  
you make all things beautiful in your time.  
God, my life to you I bring;  
may each song I have to sing  
be to you a lovely thing in your time.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**People's Prayers: Joys and Concerns shared**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Offering**

We give generously of our time, talents, gifts, service, and witness.

*To make a gift in support of our continued ministry during the global pandemic,  
please place your offering in the box near the front door, or visit [sewardumc.org](http://sewardumc.org)  
and click on the 'donate' button.*

**Offertory**

**Dylan Teut**

**Doxology, Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow (UMH 95)**

*Spoken together in unison:*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn – O God, Our Help in Ages Past (UMH 117)**

<sup>1</sup> O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home!

<sup>3</sup> Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting, thou art God,  
to endless years the same.

<sup>5</sup> Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
bears all who breathe away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.

<sup>2</sup> Under the shadow of thy throne,  
still may we dwell secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone,  
and our defense is sure.

<sup>4</sup> A thousand ages, in thy sight,  
are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night,  
before the rising sun.

<sup>6</sup> O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come;  
be thou our guide while life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

**Blessing**

**Pastor Mary Kay Totty**

**Postlude**

**Dylan Teut**

*Please wait for an usher to dismiss you from the sanctuary, row by row. Thank you!*

***The People of God Go Forth to Serve***

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