



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, November 8, 2020

8:00 a.m. Worship Gathering

Making Disciples Who Make a Difference in Seward and Beyond



Words of Welcome and Announcements:

- Charge Conference Pandemic Edition, Chapter Two: As a follow up to the actions the Administrative Council took on Oct 18 to review and approve charge conference reports, our District Superintendent, Pastor Nancy Tomlinson requests that members of Administrative Council attend a Zoom meeting on Sunday evening, November 15, at 5:30p.m. This will be a network meeting with other churches in our network. During this meeting, the D.S. will ask Administrative Council members to affirm the votes and work we did on Oct 18. The link to the Zoom gathering will be sent to the Administrative Council members when it becomes available. Thank you for adding this to your calendar!
- Would you like to engage with people during worship, online, from your home? Digital ushers are needed! Please contact Wess if you are interested.

Prelude

"Rejoice O Pilgrim Throng"- Michael Burkhardt

Dylan Teut



Peace of Christ Blessing

Call to Worship: (*Shirley N. Morgan, Jr., "Special Services for Special Days", p.27*)

L: For the abundance of your gifts to us in the days that are past, and for the promise of steadfast grace in the days that are ahead,

P: We give thanks to you, O God.

L: For life and health; for strength of of mind and heart; for common things which come with every day and hour,

P: We give thanks to you, O God.

L: For home, for family, for friends, for all those blessings by which life becomes more meaningful and time more precious; and for the love which is ours in Christ Jesus who loves us,

P: We give thanks to you, O God.

L: In grateful acknowledgement that these gifts of life are ours through your merciful grace,

P: We give ourselves to you, O God, and praise your name forever.

Song of Praise – Let All Things Now Living (TFWS 2008)

¹ Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
God's banners fly o'er us;
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'til shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

² The law God enforces,
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine,
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps fo the ocean proclaim the Divine.
We, too, should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest hosanna and praise!\

Our Common Prayer (UMH, pg. 877)

New every morning is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil.

Response to Scripture – Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (UMH 160)

¹ Rejoice, ye pure in heart;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

² Your clear hosannas raise,
and alleluias loud;
whilst answering echoes upward float,
like wreaths of incense cloud. (Refrain)

³ Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe. (Refrain)

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

Prayer Hymn – In Our God I'll Be Ever Thankful (TFWS 2195)

In our God I'll be ever thankful,
in our God I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, our God is near,
lift up your voices, our God is near.
(Repeat)

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
and click on the 'donate' button.*

Offertory

"Fairest Lord Jesus"- William R. Brusick

Dylan Teut

Prayer of Dedication (Lavon Bayler, "Fresh Winds of the Spirit," p.127)

Eternal God, we bring offerings, not because you require them, but because we want to express our thanks; not to fulfill the law, but to demonstrate love; not to fund our pet programs, but to help others experience your justice and righteousness. Use these gifts to bring comfort to those who grieve, meaning to all whose vision is clouded, freedom to the oppressed, and food for all who hunger. Please accept and multiply these offerings to the benefit of everyone who receives and all who give. Amen.

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 – Now Thank We All Our God (UMH 102)

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace,
and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills,
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Blessing

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"- Benjamin M. Culli

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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