

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

April 11, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Greeting

Call to Worship

L: Whoever you are, whatever you do, wherever you're from, whomever you love, whatever you believe or doubt, welcome to worship.

P: We come just as we are -- a mixture of saint and sinner.

L: Here, in this time, may you become aware of the presence of God.

P: We seek grace. We long for peace.

L: As we worship together, may we our love for each other and all our neighbors increase.

P: May this time of worship help us follow Jesus more faithfully and lovingly.

Song of Praise

Your Way Yahweh

¹Your church is beautiful, Your church is broken,
But You are holding us together in Your arms.

²At times we are shaken, but never forsaken.
Jesus, You're making us more like who You are

^cPurify our hearts, teach us how to walk in Your way, Yahweh
More of who You are, Tear down every wall in Your way, Yahweh

³Bind us together, we're stronger together
We will see greater things when Your Kingdom comes
Come Lord Jesus ^(c)

^BGod of hope, God of peace
you will never leave us.
God who loves, God who keeps
You will always lead us home. ^(c)

Common Prayer

God of Community and Possibility, so much of society urges us to see the world in terms of who is in and who is out, who to include and who to exclude. Remind us that all people are your beloved children. Teach to care for all people even as Jesus cared for all. Help us to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.

Children's Time

Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there God ordained God's blessing,
life forevermore.

Romans 12:14-21

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hymn

Christ Is Alive

UMH 318

¹ Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

² Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and dwell in every place and time.

⁴ In every insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.

⁵ Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Sermon

Unity, not Uniformity

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

The Prayers of the People

Please share your joys or concerns at the microphone or in the comments on Facebook or by texting us at 402-810-8900.

Prayer Hymn

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

TFWS 2232

¹ Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one body
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

² Come now, O God of Love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

⁴ Come Hope of Unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

Doxology

Megan Forbes

UMH 94

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 Spirt, Holy Spirit,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sending Forth of Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm and Welcoming of Pastor Jen Davidson

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, thank you for sharing Jesus with us. Thank you for choosing us to carry on the work Jesus did. We bring our offerings to help in that work. Bless the offerings that they can do good in our town and all around the world. Help us to be better disciples every day. Amen.

(adapted from "Bread for the Journey" p. 48)

Song of Praise

Walk In Love

¹ When I wake up in the morning, gonna walk in love.
When the evening sun in falling, gonna walk in love.
Through the troubles of the day, gonna walk in love.
Oh, whatever comes my way, gonna walk in love.

^c Brother, sister, let us walk in love.
Singing, Hallelujah, we shall overcome.
Oh, gonna walk in love.

² When my brother turns his back, gonna walk in love.
When my enemy attacks, gonna walk in love.
When I feel I don't belong, gonna walk in love.
With no strength to carry on, gonna walk in love. (C)

^B We shall come together; we shall live as one.
Whoa, gonna walk in love.
Even in our suffering we shall rise up.
Whoa, gonna walk in love.
Whoa, gonna walk in love. (C)

Benediction

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Megan Forbes

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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The Seward United Methodist Church, 1400 N. 5th Street, Seward, NE 68434
Phone: 402-643-4156 ~ Fax 402-643-4159
E-mail: umcseward@gmail.com ~ Website: www.sewardumc.org
Office hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.