

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

April 18, 2021 - 8:00 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude

Pam McConnell

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship

L: God answers those who call.

P: God hears the pleas of the sincere.

L: Whether we come with sorrow or praise, regret or exhaustion...

P: Whatever the state of our hearts...

L: To bring our whole selves -- honest and authentic --

P: This is the desire of our Creator.

(Enfleshed, 2021)

Hymn

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

UMH 386/387

I need not tell thee who I am,
my misery and sin declare;
thyself hast called me by my name,
look on thy hands and read it there.
^{2x} But who, I ask thee, who are thou?
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me,
I hear thy whisper in my heart.
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,
pure Universal Love thou art.
^{2x} To me, to all, thy mercies move;
thy nature, and thy name is Love.

My prayer hath power with God;
the grace unspeakable I now receive;
through faith I see thee face to face,
I see thee face to face, and live!
^{2x} In vain I have not wept and strove -
thy nature, and thy name is Love.

Common Prayer

Beloved One, you invite us to bring the entirety of who we are into your care. In our fullness, our complexity, even in our messiest state, you declare us your delight. May we learn to trust this love, faithful and everlasting. Amen.

(Enfleshed, 2021)

Children's Time

Pastor Jen Davidson

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 4

UMH 741

^R There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole.

C: Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

P: You have given me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

C: How long, O people, shall my honor suffer shame?

P: How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

C: But know that God has set apart the righteous as God's own;

P: God hears when I call. ^(R)

C: Be angry, but do not sin;

P: commune with your own hearts in your beds, and be silent.

C: Offer right sacrifices,

P: and put your trust in God.

C: There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!"

P: Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O God!"

C: You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

P: In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O God, make me lie down in safety. ^(R)

1 John 3:1-3

See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know God. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when God is revealed, we will be like God, for we will see God as God is. And all who have this hope in God purify themselves, just as God is pure.

Hymn

We're Children of God

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillett, Tune: LYONS (O Worship the King)

We're children of God; we're welcomed and claimed.
We're given new birth, renewed and renamed.
The world may not know yet to whom we belong,
But we are God's children and love is our song.

We're children of God who takes away sin.
In Christ we abide; our life is in him.
We offer forgiveness, seek justice and peace,
And reach out to others, that love may increase.

Sermon

To Be a Child of God

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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UMH 526

¹ What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

Mission Moment Video

Native American Ministries Sunday

Sue & Bruce Dickinson

Offertory

Doxology

Pam McConnell

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 Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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)

Hymn

Loving Spirit

TFWS 2123

^{1/5} Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

² Like a mother you enfold me,
hold my life within your own,
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone.

³ Like a father you protect me,
teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high.

⁴ Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
in your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest.

Benediction

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Pam McConnell

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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