

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

November 21, 2021 - 8:00 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Autumn Carol

Chancel Choir & Handbells

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (from "Touch Holiness" by Ruth C. Duck and Maren Tirabassi, p. 175)

L: We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and with each other.

P: **And calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ's work in our world.**

L: So we come together, here, joining hands in the great quest:

P: **To worship God, to love each other, and to serve the world.**

Hymn

Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise

TFWS 2084

1 Come, let us with our Lord arise,
our Lord, who made both earth and skies;
who died to save the world he made,
and rose triumphant from the dead;
he rose, the Prince of life and peace,
and stamped the day forever his.

2 This is the day the Lord has made,
that all may see his love displayed,
may feel his resurrection's power,
and rise again, to fall no more
in perfect righteousness renewed,
and filled with all the life of God.

3 Then let us render him his own,
with solemn prayer approach his throne,
with meekness hear the gospel word,
with thanks his dying love record,

our joyful hearts and voices raise,
and fill his courts with songs of praise.

Common Prayer (in unison) (from "Touch Holiness by Ruth C. Duck and Maren Tirabassi, p. 106)

Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body, gather us once again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together. Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service that we may be the signs of your uniting love to our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointments with prayerful trust. So may your church bring forth your will and your reign. Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Special Music

Stories of Jesus

**God's Squad &
Preschool Praise** (Video)

Scripture Lessons

Leviticus 23: 1 - 8

¹ God spoke to Moses, saying: ² Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: These are the appointed festivals of God that you shall proclaim as holy convocations, my appointed festivals.

³ Six days shall work be done; but the seventh day is a sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation; you shall do no work: it is a sabbath to God throughout your settlements.

⁴ These are the appointed festivals of God, the holy convocations, which you shall celebrate at the time appointed for them. ⁵ In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight, there shall be a passover offering to God, ⁶ and on the fifteenth day of the same month is the festival of unleavened bread to God; seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. ⁷ On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. ⁸ For seven days you shall present God's offerings by fire; on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation: you shall not work at your occupations.

Luke 22: 7-13

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." ⁹ They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" ¹⁰ "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." ¹³ So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

Hymn

We Gather Together

UMH 131

1. We gather together
to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens
his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing

now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name;
he forgets not his own.

2. Beside us to guide us,
our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning
the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side,
all glory be thine!

3. We all do extol thee,
thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation
escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised!
O Lord, make us free!

Sermon

The Church's Calendar

**Pastor Mary Kay Totty &
Pastor Steve Griffith**

Prayer Hymn

How Great Thou Art

**UMH 77
Owen Eickhoff**

1 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the *worlds thy hand have made,
I see the stars, I hear the *rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

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!

2 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; [Refrain]

3 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; [Refrain]

4 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! [Refrain]

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.

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

Offertory

Pam McConnell

Doxology

UMH 95

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.

Prayer of Dedication

 (from "Touch Holiness" by Ruth C. Duck and Maren Tirabassi, p. 214)

O God, through the offering of these gifts may we become a more open people...
open-minded in hearing your Word and wisdom,
open-hearted in healing a broken world,
open-handed in heeding your call for charity and enacted love.
With thanks for all good gifts, we present a portion of our substance and the whole of ourselves.
Amen.

Hymn

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

TFWS 2223
Owen Eickhoff

¹We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored: (R)

²We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land: (R)

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

³We will work with each other,
we will work side by side,
we will work with each other,
we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity
And save human pride: (R)

⁴All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit,
who makes us one: (R)

Benediction

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Pam McConnell

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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