

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

November 21, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Alex Sommerfeld

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

Graves into Gardens

Verse 1

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Chorus

Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

Verse 2

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley
And there's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again

Bridge

You turn mourning to dancing
You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory
You're the only one who can

Bridge

You turn graves into gardens
You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways
You're the only one who can

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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.

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

⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." ⁹They 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 ¹¹and 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?'" ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." ¹³So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

Hymn

10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes (C)

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (C)

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore (C)

Tag

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

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Sermon

The Church's Calendar

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

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

Megan Forbes

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

My Lighthouse

Verse 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

Bridge

Fire before us
You're the brightest
You will lead us
Through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X) (C)

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Benediction

Pastor Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Alex Sommerfeld

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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