

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

January 30, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship

L: Welcome one, welcome all to this time of worship.

P: We gather to sing, pray, hear stories of faith, and to express devotion to God.

L: May the faith stories shared today be inspiring and meaningful for our lives now.

P: With eagerness and attentiveness we will listen, trusting that in this time of worship God draws near to us, one and all.

Song of Praise

Chorus
You are the Lord
The famous One famous One
Great is Your name in all the earth
The heavens declare
You're glorious glorious
Great is Your fame beyond the earth

Famous One

Verse 1
And for all You've done and yet to do
With ev'ry breath I'm praising You
Desire of nations and ev'ry heart
You alone are God You alone are God

Verse 2
The Morning Star is shining through
And ev'ry eye is watching You
Revealed by nature and miracles
You are beautiful You are beautiful

Common Prayer

God of our ancestors, sometimes you call people to leave home and the familiar for life and work elsewhere. Remind us that no matter where you may lead us, you go with us. Guide our feet, direct our hands, warm our hearts, that we might embody love and grace wherever we go. Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Genesis 24:34-38 NRSV

³⁴ So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

Hymn

Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here

UMH 128, v. 1

(Tune: Woodworth, UMH 357)

1 Your love, O God, has called us here,
for all love finds its source in you,
the perfect love that casts out fear,
the love that Christ makes ever new.

Genesis 24:42-49 NRSV

⁴² "I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! ⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," ⁴⁴ and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also"—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' ⁴⁵ "Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' ⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

Hymn

Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here

UMH 128, v. 2

(Tune: Woodworth, UMH 357)

2 O gracious God, you consecrate
all that is lovely, good, and true.

Bless those who in your presence wait
and every day their love renew.

Genesis 24:58-67. NRSV

58 And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” **59** So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. **60** And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” **61** Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. **62** Now Isaac had come from^[a] Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. **63** Isaac went out in the evening to walk^[b] in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. **64** And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, **65** and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. **66** And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. **67** Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Hymn

Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here

UMH 128, v. 3

(Tune: Woodworth, UMH 357)

3 O God of love, inspire our life,
reveal your will in all we do;
join every husband, every wife
in mutual love and love for you.

Sermon

Matchmaker Matchmaker

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

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

God Is Here Today

TFWS 2049

God is here today;
as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
As certain when I sing you’ll hear my song.

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

Offertory

Sarah Rodocker

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
Praise the Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, you long for us all to flourish and when we have been blessed, you ask that we would in turn be a blessing. We present these offerings for the work of this congregation and for the building up of your kingdom. Amen.

Song of Praise

Called Me Higher

Verse 1

I could just sit I could just sit
And wait for all Your goodness
Hope to feel Your presence
And I could just stay I could just stay
Right where I am and hope to feel You
Hope to feel something again

Chorus 1

But You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
Where You lead me

Chorus 2

(Oh) 'Cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
Oh 'cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord

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Leslie Jordan
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Benediction

Postlude

Verse 2

I could hold on I could hold o
To who I am and never let You
Change me from the inside
I could be safe oh I could be safe
Here in Your arms and never leave home
Never let these walls down

Bridge

I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
So let Your mercy
Oh I will be Yours Lord
And I will be Yours for all my life
So let Your mercy
Light the path before me

Ending

Where You lead me
Where You lead me Lord
Where You lead me
Where You lead me Lord

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Sarah Rodocker

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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