

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

February 6, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Prelude

“A Merry Heart”

Handbell Choir

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.

Hymn

Faithful God

Verse 1

I am surrounded
On every side
Can't see the light of day
But I am persuaded
Beyond all hope
You won't let go of me

Pre-Chorus

I stake my claim
On every word You say
You will not be late

Chorus

I will sing through fire and thunder
'Cause You are on my side
I trust You with my life
I know my story it isn't over
Even against all odds
You are a faithful God

Verse 2

The darkest of weather
Though I can't see
I still believe You're good
So I'm moving forward
Through crashing waves
I know I'm safe with You

Pre-Chorus

You hold my life
You hear my cry
With every breath inside

Bridge

I am convinced that
Your promises will hold together
And I will dwell in the hope of Your love forever
I am convinced that
Your promises will hold together
And I will dwell in Your love

CCLI Song # 7145818
Abbie Parker | Colby Wedgeworth | Matt Hein
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Common Prayer

Holy God, we confess that sometimes we are taken aback by what scripture says about you. Sometimes we are more afraid of you than awed by you. Help us in the process of discerning difficult words so that we may find the seeds of grace. Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 22:1-14

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He

said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Hymn

Abraham, When Severely Tried

V. 1-3, 6

Text: Charles Wesley

1 Abraham, when severely tried,
His faith by his obedience showed;
He with the harsh command complies,
And gave his Isaac back to God.

2 His son the father offered up--
Son of his age, his only son;
Object of all his joy and hope.
And less beloved than God alone.

3 Oh, for a faith like his, that we
The bright example may pursue;
May gladly give up all to thee,
To whom our more than all is due.

6 For what to thee, O Lord, we give,
A hundred-fold we here obtain;
And soon with thee shall all receive,
And loss shall be eternal gain.

Sermon

The Limits of Sacrifice

Rev. Dr. 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

You Are My All and All

Verse 1

You are my strength
When I am weak
You are the treasure
That I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking You as a precious jew'l

Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Chorus

Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Verse 2

Taking my sin
My cross my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all (Chorus)

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Dennis Jernigan
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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 above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant Pastors: Mary Kay Totty and JoEllen Axthelm

For Holy Communion, if at home, you may use whatever simple elements you have at hand — bread, crackers, pita, juice, water, wine. If you are at in person worship please follow the instructions given by the Pastor.

Prayers of the Great Thanksgiving (spoken responsively)

Our God is with you,
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts,

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give our thanks to God.

**It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give our thanks to God.**

Heaven and earth sprang from your wisdom, O God, and you made us for your company.

**We turned away, and our love failed,
but you remained steadfast.**

You gave us room when we were in distress.

And so with all your people here, and all the company of heaven, we join in an unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might,
Hosanna in the highest!
Everything that springs from your wisdom is blessed!
Hosanna in the Highest!**

You lived among us as our teacher, held us, called us friends.

**You died and live again
to show us death is not the end.**

You took bread.

We remember.

You broke it.

We remember,

You shared it.

We ate. We remember.

You took the cup.

We remember.

You said "Drink".

We remember.

You shared it.

We drank. We remember.

And so today, we feast again; our bread and wine are you.

You live among us still, whenever we remember you.

We offer ourselves now —

In praise and thanksgiving.

We offer ourselves now —

Holy and living.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Come Holy Spirit, on us gathered here.

Be among us as we share these gifts of bread and wine.

May they become for us the bread of life and the cup of grace

that we may become Christ's love in the world.

God-incarnate, God-Spirit, and God-Source of All Beginnings,

All glory and honor are yours, now and forever. AMEN!

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Hymn

Verse

I count on one thing
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now
You won't fail me now
In the waiting
The same God who's never late
Is working all things out
You're working all things out

Bridge

I choose to praise
To glorify glorify
The name of all names
That nothing can stand against

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Benediction

Postlude

Yes I Will

Chorus

Yes I will lift You high
In the lowest valley
Yes I will bless Your name
Yes I will sing for joy
When my heart is heavy
All my days yes I will

Tag

For all my days
Yes I will

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Sarah Rodocker

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.