

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

May 15, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

L: Congregations, families of faith, show up for each other at significant times in life.

P: We mark the milestones and support one another in both good and hard times.

L: We mark milestones of birth, baptism, birthdays, confirmation, graduation, marriage, promotions, anniversaries, retirement, and death.

P: Over the years we have learned the truth of the old adage: sorrow shared is halved, joy shared doubled.

L: This day we celebrate the significant milestone for nine of our young adults, high school graduation.

P: We pray that each graduate may flourish as life unfolds for them. May they stay close to God in all that they do.

Song of Praise

My Feet Are On the Rock

Verse 1

I can see the clouds roll in

I can feel the winds they try to shake me

I will not be moved my feet are on the Rock

Verse 2

I can feel the waters rise
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me
Fear won't hold me now my feet are on the Rock

Chorus

When I feel my hope about to break
I will cling to Your unchanging grace
Let the waters come and the earth give way
I'll be dancing in the rain
My feet are on the Rock

Verse 3

I can see the morning light
I can feel the joy on the horizon
Here my faith is found I stand on solid ground (C)

Bridge

On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
So stomp your feet and clap your hands
Our feet are on the Rock (C)

Ending

My feet are on the Rock Oo Oo
My feet are on the Rock

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Common Prayer (unison)

God of Wisdom and Learning, we give thanks for this year's class of high school graduates—for those we know personally from here in Seward and for all those across this country. We pray for the wellbeing of each graduate this day and all the days ahead of them. Guide us all to be our best selves. Keep alive in everyone a love of learning and growing. Help each of us to shape our lives in keeping with your will. Amen and amen.

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Scriptures - Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Yahweh is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
God does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ God gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹ but those who wait for God shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Hymn

Everlasting God

Verse

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus

Our God You reign forever
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

Chorus

You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

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Sermon

“Rooted and Free”

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Recognition of the Graduates

Luke Briggs	Parents Daniel & Nicole Briggs
Zack Brown	Parents Michael & Peggy Brown
Jayden Fernau	Parent Krista Fernau
Christian Fields	Parents Josh & Jamie Fields
Ethan Galusha	Parents Dana & Sue Galusha
Drew Kratochvil	Parents Jim & Erika Kratochvil
Reid Marker	Parents Troy & Kendra, Marker
Lauryn Parra	Parents Andy & Tonya Parra
Sam Schroeder	Parents Rob Schroeder & Elizabeth Neeley

Graduation Litany

We are gathered together
to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

**We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved
and many more achievements yet to come.**

One part of your life's journey is complete.
You will prepare to begin another phase
that will take you to unimaginable places.

As you prepare for your next journey,
we hope that you remember the ones you leave behind,
who have loved and supported you throughout the years.

**We give you blessings of good will and love
as you journey forth into the world.
We thank you for the laughter and fellowship
that you have shared with us
And pray that as you begin your next journey,
remember the times that we all have shared with you.**

Use those memories as a beacon to guide you on your path.
Don't look back; continue only forward,
while using those memories to create a new path.

**We pray that God will give you strength and determination
to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen
and sustain your faith.**

Because we are made in the image of God
We have been blessed with free will to make choices and decisions.

**We pray that you make wise and rational decisions,
Always turning to God for help.
God hears, God listens, God is always with you.
Do not forget that.
Always keep in mind that God is around
and if you turn to God, God will guide you.**

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

All I Need Is You

TFWS 2080

1. All I need is you,
Jesus, all I need is you.
You are the source of all I need.
All I need is you.

2. All I want is you,
Jesus, all I want is you.
You are the source of all I need.
All I want is you.

3. My only hope is you,
Lord, my only hope is you.
You are the source of all I need.
My only hope is you.

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

Offertory

Sarah Rodocker

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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 up lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Put these gifts, and our time and talents, to work in the world for your purposes, O God. Grant to us the capacity to move beyond good intentions to give ourselves completely to making a difference in your name. Amen.

Song of Praise

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

Verse 2

In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
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

Verse 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea (C)

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

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Benediction

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Sarah Rodocker

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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