

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

July 31, 2022 - 9:15 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Coat of Many Colors

April Bartels

Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

Leader: Good morning and welcome! All are welcome here.

People: All? All are welcome??

Leader: YES! Young and old and in between, rich and poor and in between, Republican and Democrat and in between, believers and doubters and in between, black and white and every shade of color there might be; whatever your education, whomever you love, wherever you work, whatever your health and abilities, no matter your past, and whatever your future. All are welcome.

People: We give thanks for this inclusive welcome! *(MKT 2022)*

Hymn

For Everyone Born

(Tune: UMH 707)

¹ For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread,
A shelter a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead.

² For woman and man, a place at the table,
Revising the roles, deciding the share,
With wisdom and grace dividing the power,
For woman and man, a system that's fair. *(R)*

(R) And God will delight
when we are creators of justice
and joy — compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight

when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy.

³ For young and for old, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
For young and for old, the right to belong. *(R)*

⁴ For just and unjust, a place at the table,
Abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
For just and unjust, a new way to live. *(R)*

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Abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
For just and unjust, a new way to live. *(R)*

Common Prayer:

Holy One, make us mindful of the needs around us. As prices rise but wages stagnate, show us how to be good neighbors to help those in need around us. Give us hands to serve and hearts to love. In Jesus' name. Amen. *(MKT 2022)*

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Scripture Lesson Deuteronomy 15:7-11 and Matthew 25:34-40

Deuteronomy 15: 7-11

⁷ "If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. ⁸ You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. ⁹ Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,' and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to God against you, and you would incur guilt. ¹⁰ Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. ¹¹ Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'

Matthew 25:34-40

³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

1. Here am I, where underneath the bridges
 in our winter cities homeless people sleep. Here am I,
 where in decaying houses little children shiver,
 crying at the cold. Where are you?

2. Here am I, with people in the line up,
 anxious for a handout, aching for a job. Here am I,
 when pensioners and strikers sing and march together,
 wanting something new. Where are you?

3. Here am I, where two or three are gathered,
 ready to be altered, sharing wine and bread. Here am I,
 where those who hear the preaching change their way of living,
 find the way to life. Where are you?

Sermon**“Coat of Many Colors”****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**Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service****UMH 581**

2. Still your children wander homeless
 still the hungry cry for bread;
 still the captives long for freedom;
 still in grief we mourn our dead.
 As, O Lord, your deep compassion
 healed the sick and freed the soul,
 use the love your Spirit kindles
 still to stay and make us whole.

3. As we worship, grant us vision,
 till your love’s revealing light
 in its height and depth and greatness
 dawns upon our quickened sight,
 making known the needs and burdens
 your compassion bids us bear,
 stirring us to tireless striving
 your abundant life to share.

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

Offertory**Deb Snell****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

Thank you, O God, for all that you have entrusted to us. Make us good stewards of our time, talents, and treasure that we might be generous in sharing all that we are and have. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

(MKT, 2022)

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send? [R]

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? [R]

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? [R]

Refrain
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Deb Snell

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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