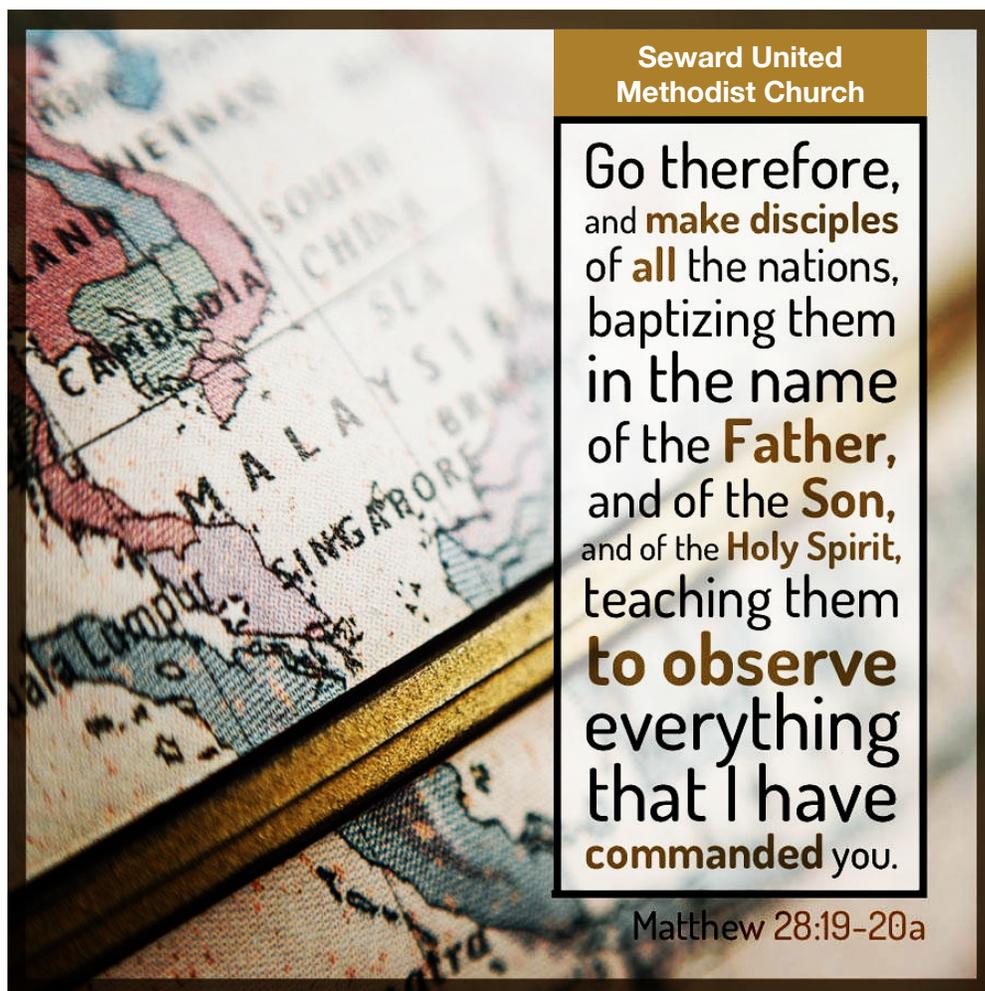


Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

August 14, 2022 - 9:15 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Megan Forbes

Passing the Peace

Call to Worship:

L: We are gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

P: We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good, and that it comes from God.

L: We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life's long journey.

P: We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust in God's love in our future.

L: The same God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond life.

P: Let us praise God with our whole hearts, and entrust our lives to God's hands.

Amen.

(from "Bread for the Journey," p. 54)

1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different;
our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others
by God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united,
and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission;
We all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.

Common Prayer: (in unison)

O God of love, you have called us into the church. We thank you for opportunities to grow in understanding and concern for one another. May our congregation be an incarnation of your love within and beyond these church doors, wherever there is loneliness, injustice, or misunderstanding. Amen.

(from "Bread for the Journey," p. 63)

Children's Time**Pastor JoEllen Axthelm****Blessing of the Backpacks****Scripture Lessons Matthew 28:16-20**

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Hymn**Lord, You Give the Great Commission****UMH 584, V. 1, 2, & 5**

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission

and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity.

Refrain

With the Spirit's gifts embrace us
For the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor,
draw us closer in community. (Refrain)

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity. (Refrain)

Sermon

"Easy Evangelism"

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

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

TFWS 2237

1 As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations
finding neighbors everywhere.

2 We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit
we would live to God's delight.

3 As a green bud in the springtime
is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness
'mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.

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

Offertory

Megan Forbes

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

Go, Make of All Disciples

UMH 571

1 "Go, make of all disciples."
 We hear the call, O Lord,
 that comes from thee, our Father,
 in they eternal Word.
 Inspire our ways of learning
 through earnest, fervent prayer,
 and let our daily living
 reveal thee everywhere.

2 "Go, make of all disciples,"
 baptizing in the name
 of Father, Son and Spirit,
 from age to age the same.
 We call each new disciple
 to follow thee, O Lord,
 redeeming soul and body
 by water and the Word.

3 "Go, make of all disciples,"
 We at thy feet would stay
 until each life's vocation
 accents thy holy way.
 We cultivate the nature
 God plants in every heart,
 revealing in our witness
 the master teacher's art.

4 "Go, make of all disciples,"
 We welcome thy command.
 "Lo, I am with you always."
 We take thy guiding hand.
 The task looms large before us;
 we follow without fear;
 in heaven and earth thy power
 shall bring God's kingdom here.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Megan Forbes

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Holy Bible, © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States

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