

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

August 21, 2022 - 9:30 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Famous One

Alex Sommerfeld

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

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

CCLI Song # 3599431
Chris Tomlin | Jesse Reeves
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Passing the Peace of Christ

Call to worship:

Leader: The Lord calls to us to go into the world—

People: We will go!

Leader: God commands us speak as God commands—

People: We will speak!

Leader: God assures us, “Do not be afraid”—

People: We trust that God will deliver us!

AMEN.

Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

UMH 156

1. I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else can do.

2. I love to tell the story;
more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies
of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story,
it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason
I tell it now to thee. [Refrain]

Refrain:

I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

3. I love to tell the story;
'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

4. I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story
that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

Opening Prayer: (Discipleship Ministries)

God Who Knows Us, in Jeremiah, we read how you formed our souls, long before anyone knew us. You consecrated us for kingdom work long before our birth. You've called us to be a prophet to the nations! We know that life moves in cycles of growth and destruction, picking and pulling, building and overthrowing. Yet, we may rest in the assurance that we are known and loved by God, who creates beautiful things! Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Scripture Lessons

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and

before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations. "Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy. "But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Psalm 71:1-12

Response

O Lord, you are my hope, my trust, Lord, from my youth

R

¹ In you, O Lord, do I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame!

² **In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;**

incline your ear to me, and save me!

³ Be to me a rock of refuge,

a strong fortress, to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴ **Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,**

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope,

my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

⁶ **Upon you I have leaned from my birth;**

it was you who took me from my mother's womb.

My praise is continually of you. R

⁷ I have been an example to many,

for you are my strong refuge.

⁸ **My mouth is filled with your praise**

and with your glory all the day.

⁹ Do not cast me off in the time of old age;

forsake me not when my strength is spent.

¹⁰ **For my enemies speak concerning me,**

those who watch for my life consult together, saying,

¹¹ **"God has forsaken him;**

pursue and seize him,

for there is no deliverer."

¹² O God, be not far from me;

O my God, make haste to help me! R

Luke 13:10-13

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God
assist me to proclaim,
to spread thro' all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

3 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

5 He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful broken, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

6 Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Sermon**“What’s Your Story?”****Pastor JoEllen Axthelm****Response after the Sermon: (Discipleship Ministries)**

Holy God, You have created us with purpose. You have given each of us gifts and talents that we might use to bring forth your kingdom to this earth! We confess that we selfishly use our gifts for personal gain, forgetting that they, too, are a means of tithing. You have bestowed on us unique abilities that allow us to help your children across the world— the poor, the orphan, the widow, the immigrant, and the oppressed. How beautiful a gift you have given us! Forgive us when we forget to share it. As you did for the prophet Jeremiah, put your hand to our mouths, our hands, our feet, our minds... all the different parts of us so that we may speak, act, write, teach, comfort, and share your good news! May our magnificently different voices carry the incredible message of your love, redemption, and grace. We are called to be prophets! Amen.

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**Great Are You Lord****¹Verse**

You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope
You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

²Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

³Bridge

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord
(REPEAT)

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

Offertory

Alex Sommerfeld

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.

Offertory Prayer: (Discipleship Ministries)

Mighty God, bringing our tithes and offerings to you today, we pray over them and sing your praises. Then we slink back into our day-to-day lives, hoping those gifts meet the expectations of our discipleship. You have called us to more – to speak for you, to make our testimony part of our offering, which terrifies us. Then scripture reminds us that you will provide us with the words. Give us the faith and courage to speak of your love, mercy, and compassion. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Go, Make a Difference

Chorus

Go make a difference
We can make a difference
Go make a difference in the world
Go make a difference
We can make a difference
Go make a difference in the world

Verse 1

We are the salt of the earth
Called to let the people see
The love of God in you and me
We are the light of the world
Not to be hidden but be seen
Go make a difference in the world (C)

Verse 2

We are the hands of Christ
Reaching out to those in need
The face of God for all to see
We are the spirit of hope
We are the voice of peace
Go make a difference in the world (C)

Verse 3

So let your love shine on
Let it shine for all to see
Go make a difference in the world
And the Spirit of Christ
Will be with us as we go
Go make a difference in the world (C)

Benediction

Postlude

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Alex Sommerfeld

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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