St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Summer Sunday July 28, 2024
Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson
Church Musician – Deb Rick

Musical Interlude
Ringing of the Bell
Welcome & Announcements
Prelude Music

Let us rise for our Call to Worship

* Call To Worship:

Pastor: Let us gather our hearts and minds together and come closer to God as his people of love and light.

People: We are here to seek a closer walk with God and fulfill his vision for our lives. Let us

worship him together!

Pastor: May God bless us with his presence as we say together our Affirmation of Faith...

Affirmation of Faith:

We gather in this sanctuary that has been made by human hands, knowing that God is calling us to create a holy sanctuary of his love and light throughout the whole world. We have come here, away from the ways of the world, so that we can become closer to God, to be strengthened by his Holy Spirit, and to experience God's kingdom with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are here to learn how to be the saints of God so that we can go forth to do good and thus make the world a better place through what we say and do. We are here to receive his spirit, we are ready to serve his people, we are happy to be his saints in this world and in the next. May God be with us in the midst of our whole lives. Amen.

Now, let us sing together our first hymn.

* Hymn: # 457 "Jesus, I Live to You"

Call to Prayer: We come before God with hearts waiting to be filled with a sense of his presence, waiting to be touched by his spirit; waiting to be filled with new energy for service. Let us wait no longer. Join me in our prayer ...

Prayer: Holy One, we wait on you with hope in our hearts – hope that through Jesus we will become more the people you want us to be. Come close to us, we pray. Touch us with your spirit; empower us as your people. Help us to walk with you and talk with you and truly become one with you in all ways. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance: Because we ask, God listens. Because we trust, God fulfills our hopes and dreams. Because we serve, God blesses us with good things. In the name of Jesus Christ, God makes all this possible for those of us who follow him. In gratitude, let us sing our response ...

Response: # 2119 "Where the Spirit of the Lord Is"

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace.
Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.
There is comfort in life's darkest hour;
there is light and life,
there is help & power in the Spirit,
in the Spirit of the Lord.

Scripture Reading: Liturgist: Eric Hanson

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Today we are sharing the words of a prayer that Paul wrote to the church found in Ephesians, chapter 3, verses 14-21 and chapter 4, verses 1-6.

Let us pray: Precious Jesus, meet us here and help us to better know you through the words of your Apostle Paul. We ask this blessing in your holy name. Amen.

Reading: To the Ephesian church, Paul wrote these words,

"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

And thus, we are meant to share unity in the body of Christ. Therefore, I beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of God's Holy Scripture. May God bless us with understanding, and may we show our understanding in the way we live our lives. Amen.

Now, let's sing our middle hymn, # 23 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy".

Hymn: #23 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Message: "Jesus at the Beach"

Response: # 2071 "Jesus, Name Above All Names"

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord, Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offering Invitation:

All good gifts around us come from God. As we have been given gifts, we offer our gifts that they may be used to make a positive difference in the world. Let us present with joy our morning offering.

Offertory

* Sung Response: #780 "Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, you heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication:

Gracious God, accept these gifts now placed on your altar and follow them with your blessing so that they may do good in your name. We dedicate them in the name of Jesus. Amen.

- * Hymn: # 503 "O Savior, Let Me Walk With You"
- * **Benediction:** May God's love for us so dwell in our hearts that we will go forth from this time of worship with his light in our eyes, his inspiration in our words; and his hope shown in all we do to the glory of God. Let us go in peace and serve the Lord. Amen.
- * Response: #81 "God Be With You" (3rd verse)

God be with you till we meet again. When life's perils thick confound you. Put unfailing arms around you. God be with you till we meet again.

Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet.

Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

* Postlude Music