



**Sunday, July 4, 2021**

**6th Sunday After Pentecost  
9:30 am Worship Service**

**Mission Statement:** Compelled by God's love and our faith in Jesus Christ, Unity Church, a diverse people of faith, seeks to realize God's dream for the world through worship, learning, giving, and serving.

**Core Values:** We love children. Serve Christ with courage. Embrace diversity. Nurture community. Be an advocate for justice and peace.

**Vision Statement:** We are called to Reach Up, Reach In and Reach Out

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*We invite you to contact Unity's staff members:*

**The Rev. Clarence Pettit, Senior Pastor**  
302-293-5415; [pastorpettit@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorpettit@hotmail.com)  
Office hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 to 1:00

**The Rev. Dr. Melissa P. Lemons, Pastor for Community Ministry**  
[melissalemons@gmail.com](mailto:melissalemons@gmail.com); 302-803-8866  
Office hours: T 11 – 1:00 & appt. Day off: Monday

**Norwood Coleman, Jr., PhD, Music Director**  
**Mrs. Sharlene Drummond, Choir Director**

**YOU CAN ACCESS US ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30AM ON YOUTUBE, UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, WILMINGTON, DE WITH THE CURRENT SUNDAY DATE. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, USE LINK BELOW.**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN4vkddPnbKEzTKIFg-Lkvg>

## **“Enter to Worship”**

\*Those who are able are invited to stand \*\* **Please, no walking or standing during this time.** **BOLD PRINT:** Congregation responds, P: Presider, A: Assisting Minister/Worship Leader

### **THE GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **PRAISE & WORSHIP – “Just Want to Praise You”**

**Just want to praise you forever, and ever and  
For all you’ve done for me.  
Blessings and Glory and Honor  
They all belong to you.  
Thank you, Jesus, for blessing me**

### **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

#### **Introduction**

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

**OPENING HYMN – “Nobody Greater” *Please Stand***

**I climbed up to the highest mountain  
Looked all around couldn't find nobody  
Went down into the deepest valley  
Looked all around down there  
Couldn't find nobody  
I went across the deep blue sea**

**Couldn't find one to compare  
To your grace your love your mercy  
Nobody greater than you**

**Searched all over couldn't find nobody  
Looked high and low, still couldn't find nobody  
Nobody greater, nobody greater  
Nobody greater than you**

**CONFESSION & FOREGIVENESS (PLEASE STAND)**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven,

you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

God of the covenant, **in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **WORD (PLEASE BE SEATED)**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

#### **First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

#### **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering

the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

*The Word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (PLEASE STAND)

**AL-LE-LU-IA, LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO. YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF E-TER-NAL LIFE. AL-LE-LU-IA.**

**\*GOSPEL**

**P: The Holy Gospel according to: Mark 6:1-13**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.<sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your

feet as a testimony against them.”<sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup> They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

***HYMN OF THE DAY "Because of who you are"***

***Because of who you are I give you glory  
Because of who you are I give you praise  
Because of who you are I will lift my voice and say  
Lord I worship you because of who you are***

**SERMON**

**Rev Brian Sanders**

**Notes...**

**APOSTLES CREED (PLEASE STAND)**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Or, “he descended to the dead,” another translation of this text in widespread use. From sundaysandseasons.com.

## **Prayers of Intercession (Please sit, stand or kneel)**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer. *A brief silence.*

God of all, through the waters of baptism you claim people of all races, ethnicities, and languages as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the heavens, your creating Spirit animates the universe. We give you thanks for the moon and stars, for the planets and the Milky Way Galaxy, and for all of the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of freedom, you have liberated us from sin and death and rescue us from all forms of spiritual, social, and political oppression. Defend us from tyrants in our midst and deliver us from all forms of slavery or corruption. Direct our freedom for works of liberation and wholeness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, you became vulnerable in the person of Jesus Christ in solidarity with the disempowered. Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of holiness, you send us out into the world to proclaim your love. We pray for our outreach ministries (*local ministries may be named*). Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks that in every time and place you call forth prophets who move us towards freedom. Thank you for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

## OFFERING

(God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor. 9:7, 8)

**We ask that you place your offering in the plate as you exit the church. God bless you.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, **you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *All are welcome to communion*

P: The Lord be with you                   **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.                   **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. We remember and proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in Christ's death and resurrection. We look with hope for the Lord's coming and ask...**Come, Lord Jesus. Come Holy Spirit. Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**P:** Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:  
*(Alternate/modern versions of prayer in This Far by Faith p. 3, WOV p. 39)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

### **Prayer after Communion**

Jesus, Bread of life, **we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS – Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.**

**Rev. Lorraine Dryden would like to give "Special THANKS" for volunteering your service for the Unity Vaccine Event to: Bob & Diane Mazzoni, Ted & Etrula Wells, Matt & Joan Lygate, Nancy Powel, Pr. Melissa Lemons, Rev. Brian Sanders, Min. Cynthia Slater, Robert Moody & Will Drummond. Community volunteers: Richard Porto & Mehari Ocell; Lisa Schieffert, St Francis Community Outreach Coordinator for Partnering with Unity to promote a healthy & safer community; Pr. Clarence Pettit and Church Council's support of this effort.**

**If you have been fully vaccinated, you are no longer required to wear a mask. We ask that all others continue to wear a mask.**

**HERE IS A NEW OPORTUNITY TO DONATE TO UNITY VIA TEXT AND CREDIT CARD. SET UP VANCO ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE BY TEXTING TO (844)794-0738 AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS TO DONATE BY CREDIT CARD.**

## **THE SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us to minister to the world.*

## **BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, **✝** be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN --**

**Please Stand (Next Page)**

**DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

**“Let us exit to serve”**

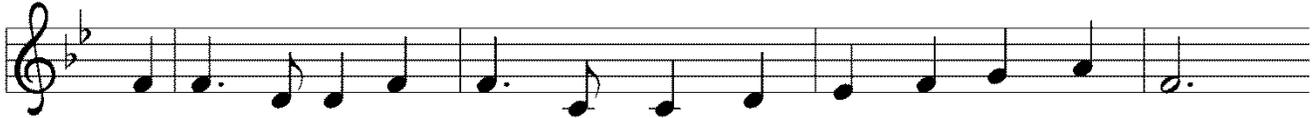
*We are called to reach up, reach in, and reach out.....*

**IF YOU HAVE ANYONE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO THE PRAYER LIST, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE @ 302-658-5288. THIS WEEK WE ASK THAT YOU KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:**

**MARY DARRELL  
DICK ULLMAN  
ERIKA ULLMAN  
JIM PIETSCHMAN  
DOTTIE DODDS  
DELORES BOUZOUKIS  
DENIS RODRIQUES  
MARY DOUGLAS**

**PASTOR CLARENCE PETTIT  
PASTOR MELISSA LEMONS  
UNITY CHURCH  
JOE OLIVER  
LUC OYOLA  
MIKE (BRAD) BRADLEY  
ALEXIS JOHNSON**

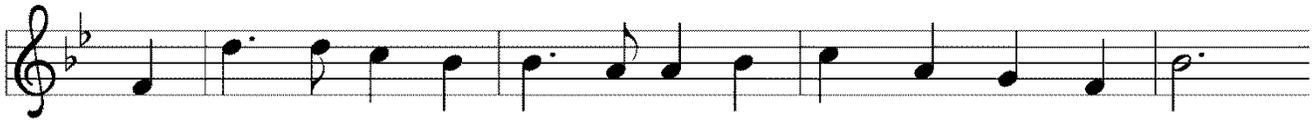
## O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:  
who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:  
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.  
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929  
Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903