

Outdoor Worship for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25 2021

9:30 am

Zion UCC, Lowden

BOLD PRINT = congregation

*Indicates those who are able, please stand



GREETING (sung responsively)

This is the Day

Psalm 118:24

Leader: This is the day //
That the Lord has made //
We will rejoice //
And be glad in it //

**This is the day,
that the Lord has made,
we will rejoice,
and be glad in it!**

ALL: THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE, WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

Leader: This is the day // **This is the day**

ALL: THAT THE LORD HAS MADE!

OUR FAITH IN ACTION - ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS

PRELUDE

I Am a Promise

by William J. Gaither

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the skies display God's handiwork.

Let the heavens rejoice, and all the earth be glad!

God has given us breath to live and Spirit to sing.

Praise the Lord!

Let us worship God with joy & thanksgiving.

Praise the Lord!

SONGIf I Were a Butterfly*

©Words & Music by Brian Howard

If I were a butterfly, I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings;
 And if I were a robin in a tree, I'd thank you Lord, that I could sing;
 And if I were a fish in the sea, I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee;
 But I just thank You, God, for making me – ME!

CHORUS: 'Cause you gave me a heart and You gave me a smile
 You gave me Jesus, and You made me His Child
 And I just Thank You, God, for making me – ME!

If I were an elephant, I'd thank you, Lord, by raising my trunk;
 And if I were a kangaroo, I'd hop, hop, hop, right up to you;
 And if I were an octopus, I'd thank you, Lord, for my good looks;
 But I just thank You, God, for making me – ME!
 (chorus)

If I were a wiggly worm, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm;
 And if I were a crocodile, I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile;
 And if I were a fuzzy-wuzzy bear, I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy-wuzzy hair;
 But I just thank You, God, for making me – ME!
 (chorus)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know the persistent worries that rob me of rest, the concerns that drive me.

Loving and all-seeing God, help us lay aside our faithless fears. Where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to Yours, we ask Your pardon. Forgive our resistance to trust You in all things. Help us overcome the hurts of the past. Fulfill Your purpose for us. Do not forsake us when we turn to You, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Reconciliation

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Through the power of the Holy Spirit within us, God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

So, hear and believe the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE 2 Kings 4:42-44

LETTER TO THE CHURCH Ephesians 3:14-21

GOSPEL John 6:1-21

REFLECTION OF FAITH



***HYMN**

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in his hands, He's got the whole world in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands, He's got the whole world in his hands!

He's got the tiny little baby in his hands,
He's got the grandmas & the grandpas in His hands,
He's got the saints and the sinners in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands!

He's got the wind and the rain in his hands;
He's got the sun and the moon in his hands
He's got the lakes and the trees in his hands;
He's got the whole world in His hands!

He's got you & me brother in his hands,
He's got you & me sister in his hands,
He's got everybody here in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands!

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

We pray for our own needs and for the needs of others, following the pattern which Jesus gave when he taught us to pray.

Through our love of the countryside, through our care for animals, through our respect for property and tools:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

On our farms and in our homes, in our schools and colleges, where machinery is made, and where policy is planned:

Your kingdom come.

By our seeking your guidance, by our keeping your commandments,
by our living true to our consciences:

Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

For the millions who live in poverty and hunger, for our own needs,
and the needs of our neighbors, by co-operation, empathy and generosity:

Give us today our daily bread.

Because we have broken your commandments,
doing what we ought not to do and neglecting what we ought to do:

Forgive us our sins.

If any have injured us by injustice, dishonesty, or exploitation:

We forgive those who sin against us.

When prosperity lulls us to false security, or hard times prompt us to
despair, when success makes us boastful, or failure makes us bitter:

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

[Concerns or celebrations from the congregation...]

In the assurance of faith, in the confidence of hope, in the will to serve,
help us to love Christ as Lord, and our neighbor as ourselves.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *All Night, All Day*

*DOXOLOGY *Give Thanks!*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son (repeat)
And now, let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)
Give thanks!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

Almighty God; **You give seed for us to sow, and bread for us to eat; make us thankful for what we have received; make us rich to do those generous things which supply Your people's needs; so all the world may give You thanks and glory. Amen.**

HYMNThey'll Know We Are Christians*

Peter Scholtes, 1966

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
 We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
 And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
 yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
 We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
 And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
 We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
 And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

All praise to our Maker, from whom all things come;
 And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son.
 And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

***COMMISSIONING & BLESSING**

Knowing the commands of Christ, let this be our way of life:

Let us feed the hungry,

Let us give the thirsty drink,

Let us clothe the naked,

Let us welcome strangers,

Let us visit the sick, and those in prison

We will not offer to God

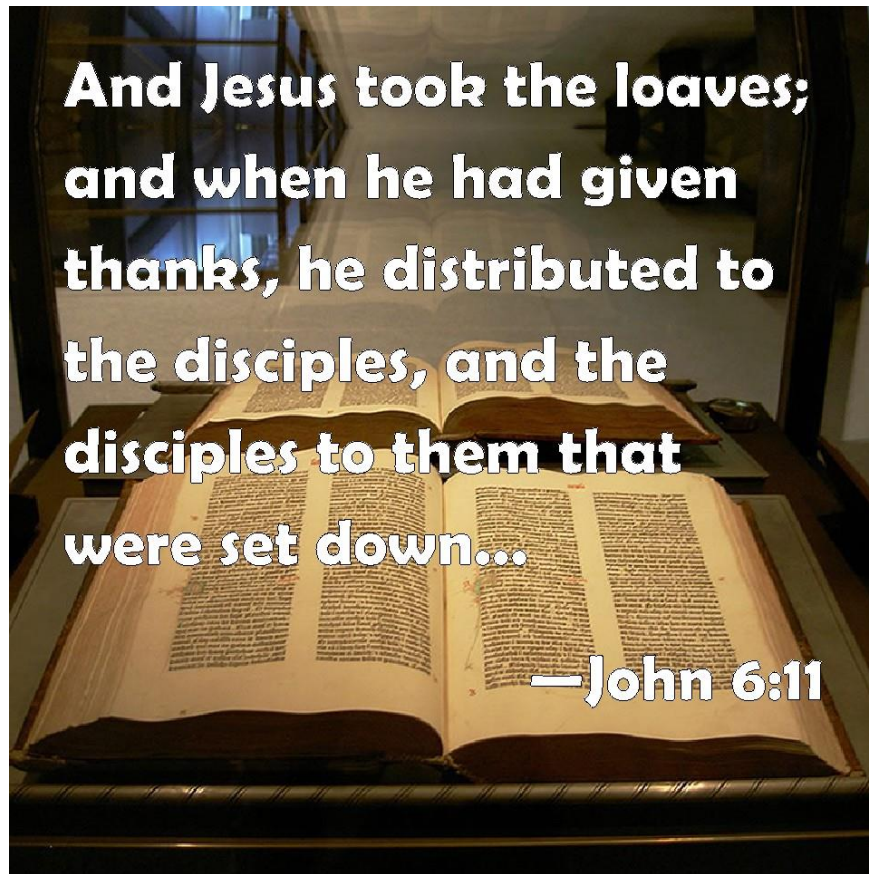
offerings that cost us nothing.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. AMEN!

POSTLUDE*Deep and Wide*

***Please stand as you are able**



Thank you to our Worship Leaders

Organist	Carter Horman
Liturgist	Jody Yutesler
Videographer:	Aaron Horman
Power Point:	Outdoor Worship
Council Ushers:	Jody Yutesler & Diane Esbaum
Ushers:	Kyle & Melissa Gottschalk & Kaci Gottschalk
Ministers	All believers
Pastor	Rev. Susan Schneider-Adams

Scriptures for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

HEBREW SCRIPTURE **2 Kings 4:42-44**

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain (corn) in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

EPISTLE (*Letter to the Church*) **Ephesians 3:14-21 (NRSV)**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL **John 6:1-21**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples.

Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.

When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

