



**MEDITATION**

Yes, thou art ever present, power divine;  
not circumscribed by time,  
nor fixed by space,  
confined to altars, nor to temples bound.  
In wealth, in want, in freedom, or in chains,  
in dungeons or on thrones,  
the faithful find thee.  
– Hannah More

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

**PRELUDE** *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

TODD SCHROEDEL

Leader: Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**People: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set us free from the law of sin and death.**

Leader: We now approach God with freedom and confidence.

**People: Give thanks to the Lord! Let us worship the One whose steadfast love endures forever!**

**WELCOMING SONG\*** *Sing a New Church* (Delores Dufner, words; John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*)

**HYMN NO. 577**      **Verses 1, 3, 4 and 5**

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

TODD SCHROEDEL

**Holy God, you are the one who has created us. You know us. You love us, more deeply than we can ever imagine. We praise you for the ways you walk with us. We lift grateful hearts for the ways you guide and direct us. We give you thanks for the gift of our lives. May we live them in a way that shows others who you are and who we are because of you. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord of Life and the Lord of Love. Amen.**

<sup>21</sup> They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup> The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. <sup>23</sup> Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, <sup>24</sup> “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

<sup>25</sup> “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

<sup>27</sup> The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup> News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God, Amen.**

ANTHEM *Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone*

UCSJ CHOIR

(Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio, words and music; Joel Raney, choral setting; John Newton, original text)

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
 I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
 How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

*Refrain*

*My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
 My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
 And like a flood, his mercy reigns;  
 Unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;  
 He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. **Refrain**

SCRIPTURE READING 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

<sup>1</sup> Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. <sup>2</sup> Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But whoever loves God is known by God.

<sup>4</sup> So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup> For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), <sup>6</sup> yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

<sup>7</sup> But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. <sup>8</sup> But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

<sup>9</sup> Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

<sup>10</sup> For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup> So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. <sup>12</sup> When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SERMON

***“With You In Mind”***

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Thank you for your continued support of the church and our mission.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY\*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

TODD SCHROEDEL AND REV. MELINDA VEATCH

CLOSING SONG\* ***Christ, You Call Us All to Service*** (Joy F. Patterson, words; Dutch melody, 18th c.)

HYMN NO. 571 All Verses

Holy God, you know the depth of your love for us. We give you thanks for the lives you have given us. As we go from here, take our lives and all in them and use us in your service. May we live in ways that shine your light, your love, and your life into a hurting world. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

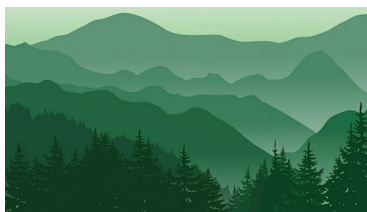
CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

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### OUR MISSION

- We are a loving and compassionate church family that *respects the dignity and integrity* of each individual.
- We find our joy and meaning through faith in God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.
- We seek to promote Christian unity and to encourage understanding and cooperation with those from different traditions.
- We seek to foster deeper relationships with God and each other through worship, fellowship, growth and service.



### WE ARE AFFILIATED WITH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA ~ THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



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