

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

10708 Lavinia Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63123 314-843-5100

www.stphilipsucc.com

August 20, 2023

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost



Pastor: Rev. Laura Mignerone Council President: Sandy Stevenson
Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Music Director: Mike Orzel

*indicates that you may rise as comfortably able
(text in bold read in unison)

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRAYER CONCERNS

* CALL TO WORSHIP - Worship Ways

O God Embodied, the one made flesh who dwelt among us, help us to arrive this morning with a “yes.” A “yes” to our faith that says our bodies are good and holy, just as and however they are.

A “yes” to show up here, even if our minds may be in other places at times.

A “yes” to believing enough in you, this community, and our own call to know this is where we need to be in this moment.

A “yes” to bringing all that comes from and through our hearts to you, O Heart-maker.

Come, let us bring ourselves to God’s table of plenty,

With our inherent worth and dignity to guide us. AMEN.

* OPENING HYMN: “To God Be the Glory” # 72 1-3

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

(Refrain) Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Worship Ways (Together)

Have mercy on us, O God of Healing. We call out to you for ourselves, our community, and our world that has so much suffering. At times we are discouraged to name what we need, by society or family expectations that were uncomfortable with needs.

So often we were simply never taught how to hold this part of us with tenderness and boundaries. But your Word invites us in to name what torments us and to receive your love and acceptance. Grant us your grace to take in the strength of your belonging. AMEN.

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

RESPONSE: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay.

You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you.

You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us."

He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said,

“Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

HYMN: “There Is A Balm in Gilead” # 501 1-3

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work’s in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all!” (Refrain)

Don’t ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge He’ll ne’er refuse to lend. (Refrain)

SERMON: “Compassion”
Rev. Laura Mignerone

ANTHEM: “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silence

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Your kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. AMEN.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

* Doxology #46 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, the heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication - Worship Ways (Together)

Let us give thanks for all that we share, as well as the way that we share. May our gratitude for this community and the Spirit's presence in this space guide us in how to show up in our lives. May we know how to give but also how to receive, how to say, "yes" and when we need to say, "not today." Let us lift up, and take in, the gift of thanksgiving. AMEN.

* CLOSING HYMN: "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" # 684 1-3

We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wildflow'rs growing,
for we are part of all that is within life's river flowing.

With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation,
that all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.

When bodies shiver in the night and weary wait for morning,
when children have no bread but tears, and warhorns sound their
warning

God calls humanity to wake, to join in common labor,
that all may have abundant life in oneness with their neighbor.

God calls humanity to join as partners in creating
a future free from want and fear, life's goodness celebrating,
That new world beckons from afar, invites our shared endeavor,
that all may have abundant life and peace endure forever.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

ALOHA SUNDAY **August 20, 2023**

Get into the spirit of "Aloha" by wearing a Hawaiian shirt or any flowered or bright colored shirt to worship.

If you have a lei, wear that too! If not, we are happy to provide you with a lei. There will be a box of leis at church. We are asking you to choose a lei to wear, but not to return it to the box. Please take it home with you. We cannot recycle the leis at this time.

Not attending church services yet? We invite you to wear a Hawaiian shirt at home and be part of the spirit of Aloha!

LUNCH BUNCH **SEPTEMBER 13**

Please join us for St. Philip's September Lunch Bunch at **noon** on Wednesday, **September 13** at Hessler's Pub & Grill located at 11804 Tesson Ferry (Tesson Ferry and Baptist Church Road.

See the GOLD signup sheet on the bulletin board and signup by Sunday, September 10.

If you have any questions, contact Dolores Zikes at 314-282-0197.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY **AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED**

The St. Louis UCC churches are organizing an online auction to benefit Habitat For Humanity. The auction will be held in the fall so right now we are collecting the items that will be auctioned. Please consider donating:

- a gift certificate or item(s) from your business/employer
- tickets to sporting/concert/cultural events
- a gift certificate for your talent/skill, i.e. handyman, gardening, organizing, sewing, cooking/baking, etc.
- a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant/store
- use your imagination!

Please contact Terri Karcher with questions and donations:

314-842-8739

fourkarch@att.net

COMING SOON!

An online auction to benefit Habitat For Humanity -- you will definitely want to see all of the auction items and consider bidding. Stay tuned for details!

BOOK CLUB

We will meet on **Sunday, August 27** to discuss *Karolina's Twins*. Our next selection is *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. This Pulitzer Prize winning novel is set in WW II France and has been described as a gorgeous tale of soaring imagination. The date for the discussion has not yet been set, but will probably be on September 24 or October 1.

Books are checked out from the library in kit form, so members do not need to locate copies on their own. We meet after church, share a potluck lunch, and always have a good time.

For more information contact Barbara Barnes (314 843-4157)
Consider joining us!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| 20 ALOHA Sunday 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 6:30 Spiritual Life Mtg | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School noon Book Club | 28 4:45 ECC Board Mtg | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 September | 2 |
| 3 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 4 Labor Day | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 11 | 12 | 13 noon Lunch Bunch @ Hessler's Pub & Grill | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |



**Our
Vision
Statement**

St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,
Eyes to see the needs of others,
Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.



Joyce Brand

Victoria Dawson

Bob Eillson

Grace Heady

Virginia Hladnick

Mary Ann Krewson

Marilyn Milne

Jeanette Monroe

Jered Nagle

Shirley Nottelmann

Paul Shrout

Lily Swanson

Paula Williams



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