

Order of Worship
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30 am – September 17, 2023

Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE

Fantasia in G Major: Gravement BWV 572
Public Domain
David Wheatley, Guest Organist

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Bob & Kathy Fierro, liturgists

O Lord, majestic in holiness, who is like you?

In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries.

O Lord, awesome in splendor, who is like you?

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, shattered the enemy.

O Lord, worker of wonders, who is like you?

Sing to the Lord, my strength, and my might, you are my salvation!

Matthew J. Parker Ministry Matters™ | Worship Elements: September 13, 2020)

OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

UMH 127

Words: William Williams, 1745; trans. From the Welsh by Peter Williams and the author, 1771. Public Domain.
Music: John Hughes, 1907. Public Domain.

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 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. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 14: 19-31 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Bob & Kathy Fierro, liturgists

A TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN (Children and Youth come to the steps for a word from the pastor)

PREPARATION HYMN

Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom

UMH 508

Words: Anders Frostenson, 1960; trans. By Fred Kaan, 1972. © Ansgar Film & Bokproduktion; trans. ©1976 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: V. Earle Copes, 1960. ©1960, renewed 1988 Hope Publishing Co. Song #105818. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

1. Faith, while trees are still in blossom, plans the picking of the fruit;
Faith can feel the thrill of harvest when the buds begin to sprout.
2. Long before the dawn is breaking, faith anticipates the sun.
Faith is eager for the daylight, for the work that must be done.
3. Long before the rains were coming, Noah went and built an ark.
Abraham, the lonely migrant, saw the light beyond the dark.
4. Faith, uplifted, tamed the water of the undivided sea,
And the people of the Hebrews found the path that made them free.
5. Faith believes that God is faithful: God will be what God will be!
Faith accepts the call, responding, "I am willing, Lord, send me."

MESSAGE

Pastor Cindy Huskey

CHORAL OFFERING

The Journey of Faith

Joseph M Martin

VFUMC Chancel Choir; KuanFen Liu, Guest Conductor; David Wheatley, Piano

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Giving God, all we are and all we have come from you. We offer back to you what has always been yours. As you have entrusted your gifts to us, we return these gifts to you, trusting that you will multiply them to the great glory of your kingdom on earth. We pray through Jesus who gave the totality of his life for us. Amen.

Matthew J. Parker Ministry Matters™ | Worship Elements: September 13, 2020)

SENDING HYMN

Wade in the Water

TFWS 2107

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Refrain:

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water, God's a-gonna trouble the water.
Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water, God's a-gonna trouble the water.

1. See that host all dressed in white, God's a-gonna trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite, God's a-gonna trouble the water. **[Refrain]**
2. See that band all dressed in red, God's a-gonna trouble the water.
Looks like the band that Moses led, God's a-gonna trouble the water. **[Refrain]**
3. Look over yonder, what do I see? God's a-gonna trouble the water.
The Holy Ghost a-coming on me, God's a-gonna trouble the water. **[Refrain]**
4. If you don't believe I've been redeemed, God's a-gonna trouble the water.
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream, God's a-gonna trouble the water. **[Refrain]**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Basse et Dessus de Trompette
Public Domain
David Wheatly—Organ

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

The Journey of Faith

We walk by faith. We live in hope. With every step we take, we trust in God alone.
We hold to Christ. He leads us on. He is our Shepherd, ever faithful, ever strong.
And when we lose our way or when our footsteps roam,
His heart will find us; His grace will lead us home.
Across the mountains high or through the valleys deep,
He leads us onward. His love is all we need.
Till we reach the promised land, we will trust His guiding hand.
We'll live in hope and walk by faith.
The road is rising up before us. We all are part of God's glorious plan.
His grace has given us a future. Now we are bound for the promised land.
And though the road ahead is long and winding, the cross goes on before us as our guide.
We know the journey is not over, for there are mountains left to climb.
We walk by faith. We live in hope. With every step we take, we trust in God alone.
We hold to Christ. He leads us on. He leads us onward. His love is all we need.
Till we reach the promised land, we will trust His guiding hand.
We'll live in hope and walk by faith.

Prayer Requests

North District Union—Pastor Mary Dennis

University UMC of Isla Vista—Pastor Frank Schaefer

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

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