

Order of Worship
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30 am – September 24, 2023

Participating Live?

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

PRELUDE *My Lord, What a Morning* arr. Marianne Kim
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Kyle Hanks, Organ

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) Varre Cummins, liturgist
Holy God, you led the people out of slavery in Egypt.
But they grumbled along the way, and even wanted to go back.
As we worship this morning may we learn from their experience.
May we be open to the freedom to which you call us,
letting go of old habits and patterns, and learning to live into the life to which you lead us. Amen

OPENING HYMN *Morning Has Broken* UMH 145
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1. Morning has broken like the first morning; Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

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.

MUSICAL OFFERING *God Cares* arr. Patricia Hurlbutt
VFUMC Bell Choir; Kyle Hanks, Organ; Clara Johnson, Director
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SCRIPTURE *Exodus 16: 2-15 & Matthew 20: 1-16 (NRSV)* Varre Cummins, liturgist
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

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

PREPARATION HYMN*Wounded World that Cries for Healing*

TFWS 2177

Words: Shirley Erena Murray Music: Hal H. Hopson ©1996 Hope Publishing Co. Song #260444. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

1. Wounded world that cries for healing here we hold each other's pain,
Wounded systems, bruised and bleeding bear the load, the scars of strain;
Dollars ration out compassion, hard decisions rule the day,
Jesus of the healing Spirit, free us to another way!
2. Through our nation's spent frustration, through the corridors of stress
May there move a kindlier wisdom all may feel, and all may bless;
Tax and tithe are for a purpose shared to shield the poor and weak;
Past the symptoms of our sickness let the voice of justice speak.
3. Honor those whose loving spirit nurses hope, restores and heals,
Towel and basin used in service like the Christ who comes and kneels;
In the tending, in the mending may we see the right and fair,
In our common quest for wholeness heal each other by our care.

MESSAGE

Pastor Diane Rehfield

CHORAL OFFERING*He Never Failed Me Yet*

by Robert Ray

VFUMC Chancel Choir; Melora Hutton, Soloist; Clara Johnson; Director; Kyle Hanks, Pianist

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

In our offering time, we put our money where our mouths are. We remember that all we have initially came from you. Now we joyfully return a portion of those gifts to your work in the world. As we express our love and thanks to you, may our gifts reach those who are in need, and serve as a sign of your love for us all. Amen

SENDING HYMN*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

UMH 581

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1. Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.
3. As we worship grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.
4. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F major, Bux WV 157
Music: Dietrich Buxtehude. Public Domain.
Kyle Hanks, Organ

Dietrich Buxtehude

The Journey of Faith

Refrain: I will sing of God's mercy, every day, every hour, He gives me power.
I will sing and give thanks to Thee
For all the dangers, toils, and snares that He has brought me out.
He is my God and I'll serve Him, no matter what the test.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.

I know God is able to deliver in time of storm.
I know that He'll keep you safe from all earthly harm.
One day when my weary soul is at rest, I'm going home to be forever blessed.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet. Refrain.

Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?
And didn't He cool the fiery furnace for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
When I think of what my God can do, He delivered Daniel, I know He will deliver you.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet. Refrain.

He never failed me. He never failed me yet.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.

Prayer Requests

North District —Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Trinity UMC of Los Osos—Pastor Les Lungren

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

FUMC Staff:

Rev. Diane Rehfield— pastordiane@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Rev. Cynthia Huskey— pastorcindy@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Director of Music Ministry: Clara Johnson music@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Interim Youth & Family Ministries: Clara Johnson family@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Pianist/Organist: Kyle Hanks organist@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Office Manager, Finance Secretary, Church Use Coordinator: Kathleen Matarazzo office@venturafumc.org	805-643-8621
Treasurer: Gloria Lewis treasurer@venturafumc.org	805-309-6862
Preschool Director: Autumn McGuire happyventures@venturafumc.org	805-653-5304