

Order of Worship
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30 am – September 3, 2023

Participating Live?

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

PRELUDE *He the Banquet Spreads Before Us* James Mansfield
Kyle Hanks, organ

Music: James Mansfield. ©1995 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, The. Song #1042289. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) Fran Turner, liturgist

L: We are standing on holy ground.

P: All those who have gone before us have witnessed to the love of God.

L: We are challenged to be people of loving service

P: Lord, open our hearts and spirits to accept the call to serve you by helping others.

All: AMEN.

by Nancy C. Townley (<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8381/worship-connection-september-3-2023>)

OPENING HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise* UMH 116

Words: From The Yigdal of Daniel ben Judah, ca. 1400; para. By Thomas Olivers, 1760; alt. Public domain.

Music: Hebrew melody, Sacred Harmony, 1780; harm. From Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875, alt. Public domain

1. The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above; Ancient of Everlasting Days, and God of love; Jehovah, great I AM! by earth and heaven confessed; I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

2. The great I AM has sworn; I on this oath depend. I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend. I shall behold God's face; I shall God's power adore, and sing the wonders of God's grace forevermore.

3. The heavenly land I see, with peace and plenty blest; a land of sacred liberty, and endless rest. There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound, and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

4. The God who reigns on high the great archangels sing, and "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King! Who was, and is, the same, and evermore shall be: Jehovah, Lord, the great I AM, we worship thee!"

PASTORAL PRAYER

MUSIC OFFERING *Prelude in Eb major, Op. 23, No.6* Serge Rachmaninoff
Public Domain
Miriam Arichea, piano

SCRIPTURE *Exodus 3: 1-13 (NRSV)* Fran Turner, 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 *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Vs 1& 3* UMH 113
CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 1327602

1. Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light, Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might, Life whose life all life endowed:

Refrain: May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.

3. Storm and Stillness, Breath and Dove, Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire, Comfort, Counselor, Presence, Love, Energies that never tire: **Refrain**

MESSAGE

Pastor Cindy Huskey

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Vs 2
CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 1327602

UMH 113

2. Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine, Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb, Well and Water, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM: **Refrain**

Refrain: May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord of all mercy and compassion, bless these gifts lovingly offered and all the people here. Help us to use these gifts for ministries of hope through our church and into our community, nation and world. AMEN.

by Nancy C. Townley (<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8381/worship-connection-september-3-2023>)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and mercy, be with us this day. We have faltered in our service to you. We create divisions between various people; we judge before we listen; we condemn before we make any attempt to understand. Our lives are in turmoil, and we confess that we have turned away from you. It is fear and anger that too often surrounds us and our actions become based on those fears and anger. Slow us down, Lord. Give us hearts overflowing with grace and compassion. Help us to mirror Jesus who loved and healed others who were rejected by “polite” society. Remind us that we are called to be strong voices of hope for those who feel alienated and lost; we are called to be a home to strangers; to quench thirst and to give nourishment; to welcome and bring words of hope. Forgive us when we have forgotten these things. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.

by Nancy C. Townley (<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8381/worship-connection-september-3-2023>)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: Christ calls each of us into lives of service and hope. He equips us for these ministries and places us on the pathways of peace.

P: Rejoice! You are called by God’s Son and blessed by him.

All: AMEN.

by Nancy C. Townley (<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8381/worship-connection-september-3-2023>)

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (found on p.17 of The United Methodist Hymnal)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:

**Sung: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Sung: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Sung: Amen.

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

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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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

UMH 577

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930 by permission of Elinor Fosdick Downs. Public Domain.

Music: John Hughes, 1907. Public Domain.

1. God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

John A. Behnke

Kyle Hanks, organ

Music: John A. Behnke. ©1999 Hope Publishing Company. Song #106067. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music

Prayer Requests

Pacific Korean UMC—Church Leaders

El Buen Pastor UMC—Pastor David Burgeson

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

You're Invited!

September 10th is

Homecoming

Come celebrate with Ventura First UMC!

9:30 Worship | 10:30 Festivities

Food, Bounce House, Petting Zoo, Face Painting, and more!

1338 E Santa Clara St. Ventura, 93001

office@venturafumc.org | 805-643-8621

Now Hiring!

Happy Ventures Preschool is seeking teachers to join our community. Those

interested in further information

should email

happyventures@venturafumc.org.