

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

*God beyond all knowing, you are shrouded in wonder and mystery and yet as close to us as our very breath. By your Spirit, illuminate our hearts and minds through your Word, that we may follow you more faithfully. **Amen.***

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather today to worship the One who created us,
The One who calls us,
 The One who equips us,
The One who loves us without end.
 With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

***HYMN #100**

“God Whose Love Is Reigning O’er Us”

1 God, whose love is reigning o’er us, source of all, the ending true;
 hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:
Alleluia, Alleluia, worship ancient, worship new.

2 Word of God from nature bringing springtime green and autumn gold;
 mountain streams like children singing, ocean waves like thunder bold:
Alleluia, Alleluia, as creation’s tale is told.

3 Holy God of ancient glory, choosing man and woman, too; Abr’am’s faith
 and Sarah’s story formed a people bound to you. Alleluia, Alleluia, to your
 covenant keep us true.

4 Covenant, new again in Jesus, Star-child born to set us free; sent to heal us, sent to teach us how love's children we might be. Alleluia, Alleluia, risen Christ, our Savior he!

5 Lift we then our human voices in the songs that faith would bring; live we then in human choices lives that, like our music sing: Alleluia, Alleluia, joined in love our praises ring!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you are always drawing the circle of your love wider, but often we resist. You tell us that all people are your beloved, and we ask, "Why?" "Why them?" We are quick to judge others rather than being grateful that we, too, are included in the fold. We prioritize the privileged, but you extend grace first to the sinner, the outcast and the marginalized. Forgive us, O God. Transform us, that we may show mercy as you show mercy.

A time of silent meditation.

When the woman touched Jesus' cloak, he told her, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." Indeed, we are made well and whole, not because of ourselves, but through the grace of God! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

MISSION MINUTE

Golf Outing

Ken Ingra

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

Rita Whetton, Reader

The Call of Matthew

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

10 And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 12 But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed

18 While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." **19** And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. **20** Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, **21** for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." **22** Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. **23** When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, **24** he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. **25** But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. **26** And the report of this spread through all of that district.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Karen Merchant

MESSAGE

The Beginning of a Life Fully Lived

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

***DEDICATION**

Gracious God, you are the giver of all good gifts. Receive these offerings and use them for your work in the world until "thy kingdom come." Amen.

***DOXOLOGY #94**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Karen

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.

HYMN #467*“Trust and Obey”**

1 When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word
 What a glory He sheds on our way!
 While we do His good will, He abides with us still
 And with all who will trust and obey
 Trust and obey, for there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey

2 Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies
 But His smile quickly drives it away
 Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear
 Can abide while we trust and obey
 Oh, Trust and obey, for there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey

3 Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet
 Or we'll walk by His side in the way
 What He says we will do, where He sends we will go
 Never fear, only trust and obey
 Trust and obey, for there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey

***BENEDICTION**

Friends, go forth in hope, faith and love. Go forth to seek Christ's face, for those who seek him will surely find. Go forth to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving one another. And as you go, may Christ's grace uphold you, may God's love surround you, and may the Spirit's energy sustain you, now and forever. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE***Stand as able**

Altar Flowers today are given to **the glory of God** and in our appreciation of **Joan Coleman's** generous donation towards altar flowers.

WE WELCOME Karen Merchant as our substitute musician today while Maxine Alstrom is away.

CALENDAR**Monday, June 12****10:00 AM Prayer/Discussion Group****7:00 PM Finance and Trustees Meetings**

Thursday, June 15	7:30 PM Golf Outing Meeting
Sunday, June 18	10:00 AM Pastor Viv's Final Sunday