

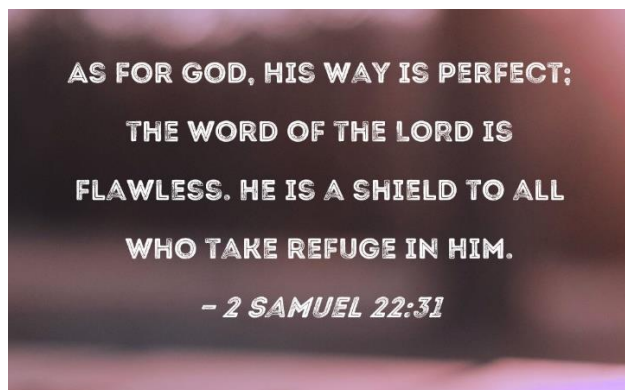
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

7th Sunday After Pentecost

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

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" 3 settings:
Georg Böhm (1661-1733)
Helmut Walcha (1907-1991)
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME AND INVOCATION **Pastor Park**
Loving God, gather us into this moment of reverence, celebration, and growth. As your sons and daughters, we long for renewed faith and meaning in our lives. So, bless us as we gather once again to worship you center ourselves in your holy presence. Speak to our hearts with your love and truth. Fill us with your joy and peace. May the light of your word be our guide and become the joy of our hearts! Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** **Matthew 13, Psalm 119**
Come in from busy, summertime days to this place of worship.
We come to connect with God's word.
Come in from the stress of everyday life into the light of knowledge.
We come as seekers of truth.
Come into worship with offerings of praise.
We come to hear the word and respond!

***HYMN # 66** **"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"**
1 Praise my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing. Allelulia! Allelulia! Praise the everlasting King.

**2 Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people
in distress; praise God, still the same as ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless. Allelulia!
Allelulia! Glorious now God's faithfulness.**

**3 Father-like, God tends and spares us; well our feeble
frame God knows; mother-like God gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes. Allelulia!
Allelulia! Widely yet God's mercy flows.**

**4 Angels in the heights adoring, you behold God
face to face; saints triumphant, now adoring,
gathered in from every race. Allelulia!
Allelulia! Praise with us the God of grace.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

Gracious and merciful God, we confess that we have not been faithful in keeping you at the center of our lives. We blame our schedules, our situations, and our lack of resources. We are quick to place blame on others rather than on ourselves as we slowly push you off to the side. Forgive us as we turn back to you and reorder our lives to put you first. Remind us and encourage us of your love and grace so that we can uphold our promises to be your faithful people. In Christ we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 25:19-34

Jayvyn Matthew, Reader

¹⁹ This is the account of the family line of Abraham's son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. ²² The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger." ²⁴ When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. ²⁵ The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. ²⁶ After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them. ²⁷ The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. ²⁸ Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob. ²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. ³⁰ He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm

famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." ³² "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" ³³ But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" arr. Anna Laura Page

MESSAGE Mystery, Dysfunction and Hope Pastor Park

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

***DEDICATION**

Holy and Loving God, we confess that all that we have come from you. You are the giver of every good and perfect gift in our lives. So, we thank you and praise you. In this time of worship, we offer these gifts for the church and for the world. We also offer our lives for the work of your salvation that is being carried out through our church ministry. Bless our offerings that they might be used to impact others with your truth and love. 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.

***CLOSING HYMN #714** "I Know Whom I Have Believed"

1 I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he
 hath made known, nor why, unworthy, Christ in love
 redeemed me for his own.

Refrain:

**But I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is able to
keep that which I've committed to against the day.**

**2 I know not how this saving faithful to me he
did impart, nor how believing in his word wrought
peace within my heart.**

Refrain:

**But I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is able to
keep that which I've committed to against the day.**

**3 I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing
us of sin, revealing Jesus through the word,
creating faith in him.**

Refrain:

**But I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is able to
keep that which I've committed to against the day.**

**4 I know not when my Lord may come, at night or
noonday fair, nor if I walk the vale with him, or
or meet him in the air.**

Refrain:

**But I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is able to
keep that which I've committed to against the day.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"March"

J.G. Thompson

***Stand as able**

Altar Flowers today given to the **glory of God** and **for peace in the world.**

Thank you to Noel Piercy, our guest musician, for sharing his talent with us today.