

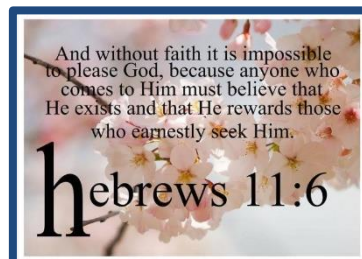
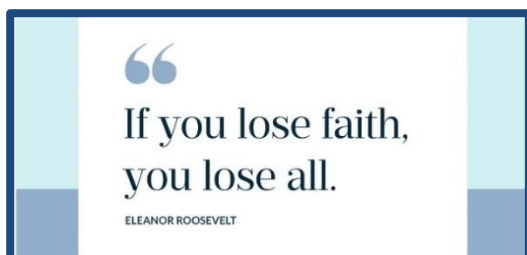
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023**

**12<sup>th</sup> 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 “The Lord’s Prayer” by Albert Hay Malotte Myrtle Connell, soloist**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**Pastor Park**

Lord, we thank you and praise for the gift of this day and for another opportunity for us to come together as people of faith to worship you and to be in fellowship with one another. We come today being mindful of the news of the heartbreaking destruction and loss in Maui as well as in other places of our world. We also come individually from all kinds of life’s circumstances carrying in our hearts certain hopes, concerns, burdens and prayers. And we lay them before you as we come to worship you for you are God who sees us, knows and loves us with love that is perfect in every way and that never fails. Be with each one of us as we worship you today. Be especially with those who are suffering and carrying heavy burdens of life. Open our hearts to receive your healing mercy and your transforming love. And fill us with your grace that we may live our life as faithful followers of Jesus Christ. In Jesus’ name we pray. AMEN.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God’s love.

**P: God’s love flows through our lives!**

L: As God’s faithful people, we gather here this day to hear God’s word for us.

**P: We praise God for the opportunity to gather together.**

L: Life can be hard and difficult and the hope and joy of life so far away.

**P: But with God, and in God, we find hope and our salvation.**

L: God is here to receive our worship and give us a blessed life.

**P: Lord, we thank you for this day and for the blessings you pour on us. AMEN.**

**\* OPENING HYMN**

**“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”**

**HYMN # 66**

**1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring.**

**Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise the everlasting King!**

**2 Praise him for his grace and favor  
to his people in distress.  
Praise him, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness!**

**3 Fatherlike he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows.  
In his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Widely yet his mercy flows!**

**4 Angels, help us to adore him;  
you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace!**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)**

**God of infinite mercy and love, we come before you this day, knowing that we have not always been faithful to what you would have us do. We have too often turned our backs on those in need, choosing not to hear their cries. Forgive us, O Lord. We know that you do not want us to behave in this way. Your love and mercy, so generously showered over us, should be a beacon to guide our own actions. We make no excuses, for none would suffice. We ask your forgiveness and blessing, turning us around again and placing us on the path of compassion and peace. In the name of Jesus we pray. AMEN.**

#### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

#### **GATHERING SONG**

#### **“THOU ART WORTHY”**

**TFWS # 2041**

**Thou art worthy,  
Thou art worthy,  
Thou art worthy, O Lord,  
To receive glory,  
Glory and honor,  
Glory and honor and power**



## THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

### THE 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.

### \* Closing Hymn

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

UMH # 526

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;  
thou wilt find a solace there.

### \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE      “Take Me to the Alley”      by Gregory Porter      Jill Land, soloist**

**\*Stand as able**

**Altar flowers** are given by **Bill Carter** to the **Glory of God** and in **celebration of Dorothy Theile’s 100th Birthday. HAPPY BIRTHDAY Dorothy** from **CUMC church family** with **GOD’s blessings.**

**Flowers** on the Baptismal Font are given by **Rita & Dave Whetton** to the **Glory of God** and for blessings as our son **Enzo** prepares to begin his second year of college and for all students returning to school.

**Back to School Celebration & Blessing** will be held on Friday, September 8, 5:30—7:30 pm and Sunday, September 10, 10 am—12 noon. Please invite family, friends & neighbors. The flyer for the event has been inserted in the bulletin.

**Scripture Readers for August:**

Aug. 6 – **Joyce Francavilla**

Aug. 13 – **Michele Sauer**

Aug. 20 – **Greg Elphinstone**

Aug. 27 – **Pastor Karen Gazzillo**