

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

21st Sunday After Pentecost

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

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor



PRELUDE

“At the Cross”

So Jung Lee

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Rev. Frederick Boyle

The simple life of a Christian is a blessed life of faith. It is a life that keeps focus on the task of loving and forgiving, and seeking to reflect the peace of Christ received by grace. Holy God, grant us a simplicity of heart, a calm mind, and a faithful soul. In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen

* CALL TO WORSHIP

A gift of a new day,

Unlived, untried, ready to be opened.

A new day with surprising miracles;

With love to be given,

Kindness to be shared

And peace to be enjoyed.

A gift of a new day,

God's gift to us.

Let us receive it with joy

And live it in expectation.

* OPENING HYMN “This is a Day of New Beginnings” UMH # 383 (verses 1 & 4)

1 This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

4 Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

*** APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy universal church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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
 For Thou hast created,
 hast all things created,
 Thou hast created all things;
 And for Thy pleasure
 they are created -
 Thou art worthy, O Lord.

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 55:6-11

Pastor Karen, Reader

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and

my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The word of God for the people of God.

Gospel Reading: John 14:1-7

Pastor Karen, Reader

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

The word of God for the people of God.

ANTHEM

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

So Jung Lee

MESSAGE

“Keep It Simple”

Rev. Frederick Boyle

RESPONSE HYMN “Tis a Gift to be Simple” (accompanied by Visiting Harp)

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
 'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
 And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
 When true simplicity is gained,
 To bow and to bend we will not be ashamed,
 To turn, turn will be our delight,
 Till by turning, turning we come round right.

RECEIVING THE MORNING’S OFFERINGS

***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!

*** OFFERATORY PRAYER**

PRAYER

Rev. Karen Gazzillo

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****“Standing on the Promise”****UMH # 374**

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

Refrain:

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

*** BENEDICTION**

Rev. Frederick Boyle

POSTLUDE**“And Can It Be”****So Jung Lee*****Stand as able**

Thank you to **Doreen Boyer** for the flowers on the altar today.

Welcome to **Rev. Frederick Boyle**, our guest pastor leading worship this morning.

Thank you to **So Jung Lee**, our musician today for sharing her talents with us today.

We thank **Jee Young Park** for providing refreshments for Coffee Hour today.

Scripture Readers are needed for the months of October & November. Please call the church office at 973-226-4410 or email caldwellumcnj@gmail.com if you can volunteer.