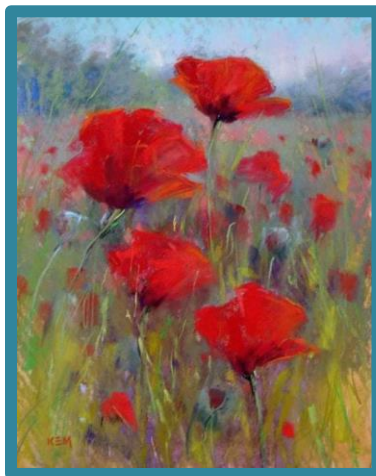


SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Rd., Caldwell, NJ 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

MEMORIAL DAY SUNDAY

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Rd., Caldwell, NJ 07006
Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor Viv

INVOCATION

“We Will Remember”

Video

CALL TO WORSHIP

On this Memorial Day Sunday we gather remembering those who gave their all.

We thank God for their service to our country and for their sacrifice.

They served in many times and in many places throughout the world.

They left behind families and friends to preserve our freedoms.

Before our first hymn we will take some time in remembrance and thanksgiving for their sacrifices. *(A time of silence)*

HYMN #696

“America the Beautiful”

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat

**Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!**

**3. O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!**

**4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Megan Mead-Bracknell

SCRIPTURE

John 3: 1-17

Cathy Wallace, Reader

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."

³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ **Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"** ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Use Me”

**Jill Land, Solo
Maxine Alstrom, Piano**

MESSAGE

Are You Sure?

“Nicodemus said to [Jesus], ‘How can these things be?’” v. 9

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

We are created in Christ Jesus for good works, and this is His gift to us. Let us now do the loving, good work of giving our gifts back to Him. Let us bring our gifts of thanksgiving to celebrate His deeds and His wonderful works to humankind. Amen

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 #98

“To God Be the Glory”

**1. To God be the glory
Great things He has done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life-gate that all may go in**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the earth hear His voice
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the people rejoice
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son
Give Him the glory great things He has done**

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood
 To every believer the promise of God
 The vilest offender who truly believes
 That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the earth hear His voice
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the people rejoice
 Come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
 Give Him the glory great things He has done

3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done
 And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
 But purer, and higher, and greater will be
 Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the earth hear His voice
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
 Let the people rejoice
 Come to the Father through Jesus the Son
 Give Him the glory great things He has done!

BENEDICTION

(based on Amos 5)

Now, go forth from this place with renewed inspiration to do the work of God.
 Seek good, not evil, love goodness, and establish justice.
 This the greatest offering we can make;
 letting justice roll down like waters,
 and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
 Go in peace, with love for our neighbors. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE



VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR

Monday, May 31

NO Zoom Prayer Group Today

Saturday, June 5

5 PM-7 PM Fish N Chips Take Out

DEADLINE FOR RESERVING YOUR FISH N CHIPS DINNERS IS FAST APPROACHING!