

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022

3rd 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

We who have come to know your love, O Lord, are here to worship you. We ask your blessing upon us in this offering of our praise, and we ask your presence in every act of our lives, that we...your Church...may be confirmed in our faith, and give glory to your son Jesus Christ. Amen

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Inspired by Psalm 148

Praise the Eternal One! Who will praise God from the heavens?

We are the sun, the moon and all the stars; we will praise God! We are the clouds, the thunder, the rain; we will praise the Eternal One!

Who will praise God from the earth?

We are the beasts of the sea and land; we will praise God! We are the seeds that grow in the fields, the trees that cover the mountains; we will praise the Eternal One!

Who will praise the Creator of all life?

Young and old, rich and poor, we will remain faithful and praise the Eternal One!

Together we will worship and serve the giver of life!

We gather today on this first Sunday of summer to celebrate the earth...planting, weeding, tending God's garden. Let us worship God.

***HYMN #145**

"Morning Has Broken"

**1 Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world**

**2 Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass**

**3 Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day**

**4 Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world**

PRAYER

Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessings fall upon our seeds and plants, our hands and tools, our soil, our gardens. Bless our labor with rain and sunshine, that new life might spring up, that we might be truly at one with the integrity of all creation. Convict us as stewards of your magnificent garden to cry out when it is being abused and misused, to stand firm in our conviction to be your appointed custodians. This we pray as your humble servants and stewards of this amazing planet. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3: 1-15

Jeannie Laureano, Reader

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. 7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. 8 But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices 10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. 11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

12 Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Maxine Alstrom, Music Director

THE MESSAGE Part One: READY TO GROW

*Today begins the **Growing the Fruit of the Spirit Sermon Series** as we prepare to sow seeds.*

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Sower of all life, in this summer season of abundance, we offer our heartfelt thanks. Thank you for seeds of promise you have sown in the soil of our lives. Bless our gifts of service of your people and our gifts of generosity. Amen

***DOXOLOGY**

**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**

"The Garden Song"

Pete Seeger

CHORUS:

**Inch by inch, row by row, Gonna make this garden grow.
Gonna mulch it deep and low, Gonna make it fertile ground.
Inch by inch, row by row, Please bless these seeds I sow.
Please keep them safe below 'Til the rain comes tumbling down.**

**1 Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones, We are made of dreams and bones
Need a spot to call my own Cause the time is close at hand.
Grain for grain, sun and rain I'll find my way in nature's chain
Tune my body and my brain To the music of the land. CHORUS**

**2 Plant your rows straight and long, Season them with a prayer and song
Mother earth will keep you strong If you give her love and care.
Old crow watching from a tree Has his hungry eyes on me
In my garden I'm as free As that feathered thief up there. CHORUS**

***BENEDICTION**

*May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ. And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.*

POSTLUDE

***Stand as able.**

CALENDAR

Monday, June 27	10 AM	Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group
Tuesday, June 28	9 AM	Carpet Cleaning in Sanctuary
Thursday, June 30	6 PM	Farewell Dinner for Jane Vogelsang
Sunday, July 3	10 AM	WORSHIP
Monday, July 4	FOURTH OF JULY! Church Office Closed NO Zoom Prayer/Discussion	