

SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2022

4th 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

Gracious God, On this Fourth of July weekend we thank you for our country and the freedoms that our democracy enables. We thank you for all down through the years who have lived and acted in ways that have caused our nation to blossom and to be accountable to our pledge of "justice for all." Be near us as we worship today. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing praises to our Lord:

who heals us and makes us whole.

Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God:

whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.

Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God;

give thanks to God's holy name:

God's Kingdom is near to us; God's peace resides in our hearts.

*HYMN #67

"We, Thy People Praise Thee"

**1 We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
God of every nation!**

**We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
Lord of Hosts eternal!**

**Days of wonder, days of beauty,
days of rapture filled with light
tell thy goodness, tell thy mercies,
tell thy glorious might.**

**We, thy people praise thee, praise thee,
praise thee evermore.**

**2 We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
 God of every nation!
 We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
 Lord of Hosts eternal!
 For thy blessings, for thy bounty,
 joyful songs to thee we sing,
 songs of glory, songs of triumph
 to our God and King.
 We, thy people praise thee, praise thee,
 praise thee evermore.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

2 Kings 5, Psalm 30

O God of people and nations, we are ignorant and arrogant about our own prosperity and might. When we forget how much we have, remind us of our abundance. When we take pride in our status and think ourselves better than others, grant us humility. When we use wealth and power to get our own way at the expense of others, correct us. We pray for your forgiveness.

Time for silent reflection.

God's anger lasts but a moment, but God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping may last the night, but joy comes in the morning God takes off our sackcloth and clothes us with joy. Let us rejoice! We are forgiven!

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 13: 1-8a

Robb McCombe, Reader

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast[a] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lisa Grados, Piano

THE MESSAGE Part Two: LOVE EVERY ONE, ALWAYS

*The **Growing the Fruit of the Spirit Sermon Series** continues. It is easy to say we love others, or to love those who love us in return. But it is much more difficult to live a life of intentional love for everyone, always. If our goal is to become more like Christ, than that is what we need to do!*

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.

A TIME TO SAY FAREWELL Jane Vogelsang

The church is a family. United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are all brothers and sisters. Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time. For a time, **Jane** has lived with us. We have shared with each other good times and bad, we have shared each other's joys and sorrows, we have lightened each other's heavy loads. Together we have laughed and cried, together we have worshiped and praised God, together we have lived.

**We feel sorrow in your leaving,
yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your life.
We will miss your love and support,
yet we know you will add much to the lives
of those who will be your new church family,
as you have added much to our lives.**

We will pray for you and for the whole family of God.

O God, you are the strength and the protector of your people. We humbly place in your hands **Jane** who is about to leave us. Keep and preserve her, O Lord, in all health and safety, both of body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Go in the peace of Christ. Our prayers go with you. **Amen.**

***HYMN #557**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

**1 Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like that to that above.**

**2 Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one
Our comforts and our cares.**

**3 We share each other's woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.**

**4 When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.**

***BENEDICTION**

Do not grow weary in doing what is right, for you will reap a great harvest if you do not give up. Sow in the Spirit and reap the blessings of God. Go in peace. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

***Stand as able.**

Altar Flowers are given to the **glory of God** and in loving remembrance of **Jeff Woodcox** on his birthday by Louise.

CALENDAR

Monday, July 4

FOURTH OF JULY Church Office Closed
NO Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group