

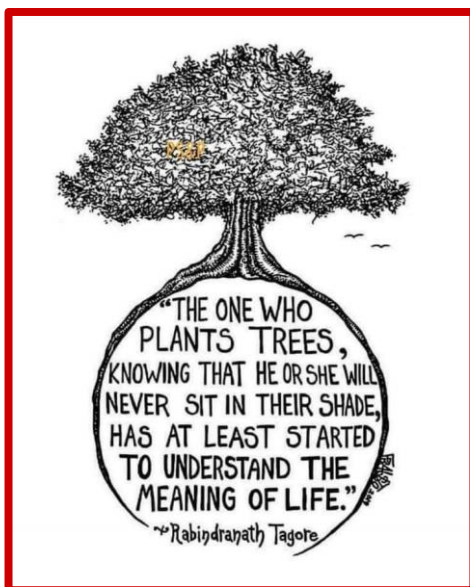
SUNDAY, October 9, 2022

18th 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

For the healing love you have offered to us; for the patience you have with us; for your presence that will never fail, we give you thanks, O Lord. Bring our hearts and spirits to you that we may grow in our faith and service to you by serving others. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the midst of your busy week you have come to worship God.

Our lives are pulled in so many directions, we seek God's guidance.

Let go of the burdens that weigh you down. God will take them.

We thank God for the respite we are given.

Tune your hearts and voices in praise to God.

Let our voices bear the joy we feel because of God's love for us.

*HYMN #140

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father

There is no shadow of turning with Thee

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not

As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

CHORUS

Great is Thy faithfulness
 Great is Thy faithfulness
 Morning by morning new mercies I see
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
 Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
 Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
 Join with all nature in manifold witness
 To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love
CHORUS

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
 Blessings all mine with 10,000 beside.
CHORUS

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Patient Lord, you know how easy it is for us to whine and complain bitterly about all those things in our lives that are difficult. We focus on them as though they were the only things that ever happened to us, forgetting the many blessings that you have given to us and the opportunities you give us to serve you. We feel alienated--you call us beloved. We feel lost--you seek us. We feel broken and battered--your love is a healing balm. Forgive us when we forget those things. Help us to always look to you for our healing and to return thanks to you by praise and serving others in your name. For we offer this prayer of confession of our failures and gratitude for your blessings.

Time for silent meditation.

Turn again to the Lord, for you are beloved of God and have been given many blessings. Rejoice in God's love for you. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-7

Maxine Alstrom, Reader

1 These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. 4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from

Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

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

THE MESSAGE Finding God in Unexpected Places

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Beloved God, who richly provides for our needs and enjoyment, thank you for your many gifts. You have trusted us with our lives, with this world, and with your love. May the gifts we offer you today be used for your service and your glory. 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!**

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.

***HYMN TFWS #2162 "Grace Alone"**

**1 Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
Every difference we can make is only by His grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,
Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.**

CHORUS

Grace alone which God supplies.
 Strength unknown He will provide
 Christ in us, our cornerstone.
 We will go forth in grace alone.

2 Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,
 Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace.
 Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away
 Every sorrow turned to praise is only by His grace
CHORUS

***BENEDICTION**

*Having opened your hearts to God and received God's healing love, go now into this hurting troubled world with the good news of God's presence and compassion. **Amen.***

*** POSTLUDE**

***Stand as able.**

CALENDAR

Monday, October 10	10:00 AM	Prayer/Discussion Group
Sunday, October 16	10:00 AM	RALLY DAY and LUNCHEON
Monday, October 17	10:00 AM 7:00 PM	Prayer/Discussion Group Finance and Trustees Mtgs

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE is Saturday, October 22 at 9:00 AM on zoom.
 All church members are invited with voice and vote to attend this important yearly meeting during which we vote on our leadership, vote on clergy compensation and review our church membership and goals for the coming year.