

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

September 22, 2024

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Emma Lou Diemer 1927-2024

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: I will extol you, my God and Sovereign, and bless your name forever.

Many: Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever.

One: Great is God, and greatly to be praised;

Many: The greatness of God is unsearchable.

One: God is gracious and merciful.

Many: God has compassion over all that God has made.

One: My mouth will speak the praise of God,

Many: All flesh will bless God's holy name forever and ever.

*Hymn

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" (verses 1-4)

UMH 79

Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth thy scepter claim; all in heaven above adore thee.

Infinite thy vast domain; everlasting is thy reign.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord; Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Lo! the apostolic train joins thy sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white-robed martyrs follow.
And from morn to set of sun, through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit: three we name thee,
though in essence only one; undivided God we claim thee,
and adoring bend the knee while we own the mystery.

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

*Praise Songs

We Will Celebrate Our God

We will celebrate our God!...
Let his banner be raised, let his glory be seen.
We will celebrate our God!...

Praise, O Praise, My God and King

Praise, O praise, my God and King.
Hymns of adoration, sing;
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful, ever sure ...

Alleluia, Alleluia!
King of Kings and Lord of Lords!
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful ever sure...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

God of compassion, you alone can show us true healing. We pray today for wholeness of body and soul. Our challenges and obstacles differ from person to person, but each of us is in need of your healing. We offer our burdens and our brokenness to you, knowing that you offer us abundant grace, free and unconditional. Let your love enter our hearts so that we might be renewed, restored, reenergized for joyful service in your name. Amen.

Children's Time

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Come and Fill Our Hearts

TFWS 2157

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

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.

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Your Grace and Mercy

Newlove Kojo Annan

Grace and Mercy has brought me thus far,
Lord, had it not been for Your Grace, what wuld life have been like?
Life has been very rough; but Grace has always been my guide,
Lord, Your Grace has taken care of me to date. (2x)

You never gave the promise that the journey would be easy,
Your Grace and Mercy has brought me thus far!
Your Grace and Mercy is all I need,
Your Grace and Mercy has brought me thus far. (2x)

Abundant Grace, Abundant Grace, Abundant Grace, and having Mercy upon us,
Your Grace and Mercy has brought us thus far!
Your Grace and Mercy, is all I need, your Grace and Mercy
has brought us thus far!

Your Grace and Mercy, Your Grace and Mercy,
Your Grace and Mercy has brought me thus far!

*Doxology

UMH 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! Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Passing of Peace

Shalom

God's peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

*Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:44

Anthem

Draw Me Nearer (vs 1 & 4)

Jack Schrader (b. 1942)

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
buy I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain

Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee. *Refrain*

Message

Announcement

*Hymn

"It Is Well with My Soul"

UMH 377

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,

and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*Benediction

Postlude

It Is Well with My Soul

Carolyn Hamlin b. 1933

Music notes:

Eminent composer Emma Lou Diemer died this June 2 at age 96. She composed for many genres including choir, organ, piano, orchestra, etc. Her compositional style over the years has varied from tonal to atonal, from traditional to experimental. Dr. Diemer joined the faculty of the University of California (UCSB) in 1971 where she was professor emerita, from 1991 to 2024.

Carolyn Hamlin became organist at First Baptist Church of Easley, SC on July 7, 1958 and retired March 31 this Easter after serving 66 years in her beloved church. She is known and respected for her dedication to worship. She composes for organ and choir which are published by a variety of U.S. publishers. Dr. Hamlin has received the Order of the Silver Crescent, South Carolina's highest civilian honor.

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Cynthia Fletcher,
Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, William Ness, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah,
Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 145 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.
Common Prayer – *Worship & Song: Worship Resources*, Abingdon Press, 204.
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