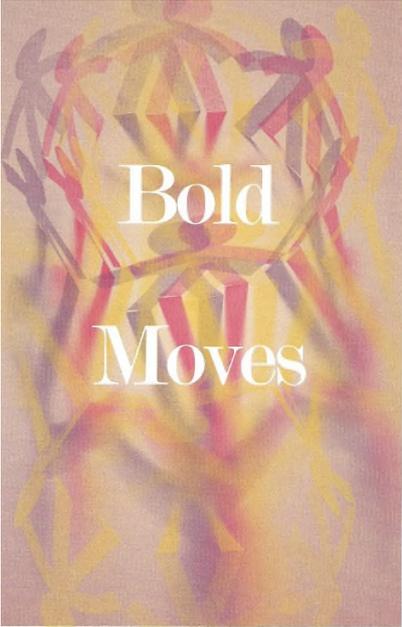


**BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 16,2020**

"Truth can be told in an instant, forgiveness can be offered spontaneously, but reconciliation is the work of lifetimes and generations."

Krista Tippett, Speaking of Faith



**Bold
Moves**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG *"Praise Adonai"* Bethel Praise Team

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*) Psalm 133 edited

It is wonderful and beautiful when
all humanity gets along!

It is like precious oil anointing us.

It is like the dew on the highest mountain falling gently on the hills around it.

That's where God commands the blessing,

and that blessing is life forevermore! Come, now is the time to worship.

INVOCATION (*unison*)

God of Love and Mercy, in this holy space, surrounded by the beauty of your creation, we gather to sing our praises and be touched by your grace. We pray that through our worship we will understand the need for forgiveness and reconciliation. Let your Spirit enter in and let our destructive thoughts be transformed into actions of kindness as we work to bring healing and wholeness to our world. We pray in the name of Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

OPENING HYMN#61

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that op - ens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their tin - y wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

OUR SACRED STORY

Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Living Together in Unity” Pastor Karen

SPECIAL MUSIC

“In Christ Alone”

Bethel Praise Team

MESSAGE

“Full Circle”

Rev. Karen J. Aitkens

HYMN#323

“Wonderful Words of Life”

Wonderful Words of Life

1. Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won - der - ful words of life;
 2. Christ, the bless - ed one, gives to all, won - der - ful words of life;
 3. Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won - der - ful words of life;

let me more of their beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of life.
 sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life.
 of - fer par - don and peace to all, won - der - ful words of life.

Words of life and beau - ty, teach me faith and du - ty;
 All so free - ly giv - en, woo - ing us to heav - en;
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er;

Refrain

beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life,

beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE LORD'S PRAYER (*forgive us our sins ...*)
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE#305 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

305 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for a congregational response. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The lyrics are: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your spir-it in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. grace!" The score includes a first ending marked "1 (optional)" and a final ending marked "Final".

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your spir-it
in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. grace!

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Invitation

Offertory

Response

"Gospel Jazz Finale"

Isaac Faust

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above the heavenly host

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN#623 "Wake Up This Morning"

Woke Up This Morning

F

1. Oh, I woke up this morn - ing with my mind, (and it was)
 2. Can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, (if you keep it)
 3. Makes you love ev - 'ry bod - y with your mind, (when you keep it)

F7 Bb

stayed on Je - sus. Woke up this morn - ing with my
 stayed on Je - sus. Can't hate your neigh - bor in your
 stayed on Je - sus. Love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your

F

mind, (and it was) stayed on Je - sus,
 mind, (if you keep it) stayed on Je - sus,
 mind, (when you keep it) stayed on Je - sus,

woke up this morn - ing with my mind, (and it was)
 can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, (if you keep it)
 love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your mind, (when you keep it)

A7 Dm F

stayed on Je - sus, Hal - le - lu, Hal - le - lu,

C Bb F

lu, Hal - le - lu Hal - le - lu jah.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

Like Joseph, gather those around you who need your forgiveness and embrace them.

We will offer our love and work on reconciliation.

Serve God with patience and passion.

We will offer ourselves to widen our community of faith.

We go from here to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God. And

we say together: **How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.**

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Chad Willis

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16, 2020

Genesis 45:1-15

Bold Moves

Holy God,

We know that union with all people is your will for us.

Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union across class and economics.

Grant to those who have abundance

the wisdom and courage to share

in order to strengthen those who have less.

Grant to those who live in scarcity,

the strength to organize and speak.

Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union across national borders.

Where we have erected walls,

and made political division more important

than human rights, heal us we pray.

Help us to remember that all people,

no matter the color of their skin

or the language they speak

or the opportunities into which they were born,

are your beloved children.

Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union among families.

Heal us, we pray, so that we not

Pass the sins of our fathers and mothers

Forward to the next generation.

Send your healing love like a balm

on those families separated

by violence or misunderstanding.

In your name, we pray, Amen.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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