

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

November 7, 2021

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

WORDS TO PONDER

It is not the amount of the gift of the giver, but the amount of the giver in the gift.

WELCOME

HONORING 50 & 51 YEAR MEMBERS

Lynn Arentz-Bowers (50), Pam Myers (50), Donna Stair (50), Gary Stambaugh (50), James Utz (51), Randy Wentz (51), Joan Werner (51).

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who are anxious or burdened.

People: This is a time to experience good news.

Leader: This is God's house, and we can meet God here.

People: We are brought together in the family of God.

Leader: We are here to remember the ministry of Jesus.

Unison: We have come to be equipped for our ministry.

OPENING HYMN: "God of Abraham and Sarah" #20 NCH

Copyright © 1986 James Gertmenian. Harmonization Copyright © 1986 Ronald Huntington. Tune Used, CWM Rhondda. Used by Permission. CCLI Streaming License 21152378 St. David's United Church of Christ, Hanover, PA

1) God of Abraham and Sarah,
God of Moses, Miriam's Guide;
God of David and the prophets,,
God in Jesus glorified;
Up from the dust you raise a people,
Breathe in the breath of life of soul;
Down through the years the people praise you
Till alleluias make them whole!

- 2) God who dances in creation,**
Spinning stars above our heads;
God whose face is scribed in music
By whose hand the earth is fed;
Up from the ground you raise the mountains,
Raise our spirits lift our eyes.
Down through the years your people praise you
Till alleluias flood the skies!
- 3) God who loves the poor in spirit,**
God who comforts those who mourn;
Balm for wounds, the friend of sinners
Taking the side of earths forlorn;
Up from the depths you raise your people,
Giving them courage for the day
Down through the years the people praise you
Till alleluias light their way!
- 4) In our lives from birth to dying,**
Depth of sorrow, height of joy;
Praising God in every season,
Let every key our hearts employ.
Praise is the healing, praise the glory,
Praise is the final mystery;
Down through the years let people praise you
Till alleluias set them free!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Attune us in this sanctuary to the reality of Christ's eternal reign. May Your presence be so real to us that our lives are brought into harmony with Your aims. Make us instruments of Your help and carriers of Your hope, both in this place and as we go our separate ways. AMEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's help is as near as our requests, dependable as the breath of life that God has given. Surrounded by the gifts of God, we often take them for granted. Let us take time to recognize and admit our wayward pursuit of goals that are not God's.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-wise God, You know how much we enjoy being honored above others, and how often we resent the special respect others receive. You are aware of the shortcut we take for our own advantage. You see the ways we pretend to be more than we are. You observe not only our actions but our motives as well. We need Your help to put away all that is false and to discover our true identity as Your children. Lift us up in Your forgiving love, as we pray our silent prayers of confession.

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In Christ we are offered a new design for living; receive it. Give what you have, without counting the cost. Keep the faith by giving it away. Accept Christ's sacrifice on your behalf, that sin may cease to dominate our lives.

HOLY SCRIPTURES: Psalm 146, Mark 12:38-44

PSALM 146

¹Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.

²I will praise the LORD all my life;
 I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³Do not put your trust in princes,
 in human beings, who cannot save.

⁴When their spirit departs, they return to the
 ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.

⁵Blessed are those whose help is the God of
 Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

⁶He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.

⁷He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free,

⁸the LORD gives sight to the blind,
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,
the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD reigns forever; your God, O Zion,
for all generations. Praise the LORD.

MARK 12:38–44

Warning Against the Teachers of the Law

³⁸As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. ⁴⁰They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

The Widow’s Offering

⁴¹Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴²But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

SERMON: "Trust God"

PASTORAL PRAYER and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. AMEN**

LITURGY FOR DEPLOYMENT (8:30 AM Service Only)

LEADER: Luke Small, from our church family is being deployed in December, we invite him to come forward to receive our prayers and blessing.

(Pictures Here)

Luke, you have been called to duty on our behalf to serve and defend our nation and our liberty. This body of Christ thanks you with heartfelt gratitude for your willingness to serve. United with you in faith, we wish to enfold you in our love and surround you with prayer, blessing and the assurance of God's presence as you go forth from this place to fulfill your call. Let us pray. Lord of all, we give You profound thanks for all those who answered the call to defend and protect our way of life, especially for Luke. What lies ahead is in large measure unknown to us and unknown to those who serve. Yet some awareness of the perils and dangers gives us prayerful pause to seek Your aid.

PEOPLE: Be present with those who serve, O Lord.

LEADER: Be present with and guide all our military personnel. Sharpen their skills. Make their judgments true. Give them those things necessary to achieve their goals and defend our cause.

PEOPLE: Be present with those who serve, O Lord.

LEADER: Give to each man and woman and their families Your special love, strength, wisdom, and grace, that their fears may be laid aside, their faith fostered, their

courage made sure, and their spirits comforted by the knowledge of Your divine presence throughout their days.

PEOPLE: Be present with those who serve and their families, O Lord.

LEADER: Guard and protect them from evil. Send Your holy angels to have charge over them and bear them up.

PEOPLE: Be present with those who serve, O Lord.

LEADER: Above all, bless these men and women with a holy blessing that will sustain them in the face of whatever may come. People of God, send forth Luke to serve with your commission and the blessing of Almighty God.

UNISON: Luke, servant of our nation, go forth on our behalf. Do your duty with honor. Defend us against the darkness. Know that no task is too trivial or small in this cause. Know also that our love and support go with you. Go forth with blessings in abundance from Almighty God. And may God's peace be with you always. AMEN

UNISON BENEDICTION

The grace of God goes with us, and God's mercy meets us in times of need. We leave behind our burdens and cares to face life's challenges with renewed strength.

CLOSING HYMN: "Standing on the Promises"

Author: Russell Kelso Carter (1886); Tune: PROMISES (Carter); Public Domain

**1) Standing on the promises of Christ, my King,
Through eternal ages let his praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.**

Refrain:

Standing, Standing,
Standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
Standing, Standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2) Standing on the promises that cannot fail.

When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God. [**Refrain**]

3) Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord,

Bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
Standing on the promises of God. [**Refrain**]

4) Standing on the promises I cannot fall,

List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all,
Standing on the promises of God. [**Refrain**]