

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Just Be Kind! If you're missing a sign in your yard, you can get one at the church office. Proceeds go to local mission through United Methodist Women.
- Sunday School for all ages – breakfast at 9:30 a.m. [Preregister your kids here](#).
- [Abundant Life - Women's Group](#) – access the abundant life that God promised us by taking care of our health. A group for women to share faith-based motivation, inspiration, and accountability for any of our health goals. Click the link for more information. The group is private.
- Create beautiful embroidery with other creators! Meetings once a month. Only \$35 / month for lessons. Contact Dot Leasure for more details.
- CROP Walk - 5K walk on the Great Allegheny Passage on Sunday, October 10, 2021 @ 1:30 pm. Registration at the CBIZ Parking Lot. The walk supports hunger missions locally, around the country and the world. Fundraising has begun! You can donate and/or join the [LaVale United Team](#).
- Upper Room daily devotionals are in for the new season. If you want a copy, please call the church office.

Questions? Call the church office (301) 722-6800.

We'd like to thank all who are joining us virtually and on WCBC.

For those of you who are here in person we welcome you as well.

If it is a bit too crowded for you in here, this service is also live streamed to the fellowship hall downstairs. Handicap accessibility is available through the pantry entrance.

Our service is also live streamed in the parlor as well as in the nursery.

Our nursery is available for parents who would like to take their infant children there and pre-K is staffed for the toddlers.

Older kids we welcome to not just join but also to participate in worship. There are crayons and kids worship packs available as well. If you need one, please raise your hand and an usher will bring you one.

Welcome to worship.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Please rise)**

Psalm 19

19:1 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

19:2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

19:3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

19:4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

19:5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

19:6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

19:8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

19:9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

19:11 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

19:12 But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

19:13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

PRELUDE/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES 9/11 Prayer

OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN** - Hymn Of Promise

Verse 1

In the bulb there is a flower
In the seed an apple tree
In cocoons a hidden promise
Butterflies will soon be free
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be

Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

Verse 2

There's a song in every silence
Seeking word and melody
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me
From the past will come the future
What it holds a mystery
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

Verse 3

In our end is our beginning
In our time infinity
In our doubt there is believing
In our life eternity
In our death a resurrection
At the last a victory
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

CCLI Song # 126529

Natalie Sleeth

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SCRIPTURE READING James 3:1-12

3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

3:2 For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.

3:3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies.

3:4 Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.

3:5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!

3:6 And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell.

3:7 For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species,

3:8 but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

3:9 With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God.

3:10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.

3:11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water?

3:12 Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

SERMON Rev. Frankie Revell

PRAYER OF CONFESSION—Respond with your heart...

Leader: Lord, I am not perfect. My mouth is just a little too slick and my soul is just a little too sick and tired of stumbling.

People: Lord, we're made in your likeness.

Leader: I keep falling because sometimes my tongue gets in the way. I know right from wrong, but sometimes my tongue gets the best of me.

People: Lord, we're made in your likeness.

Leader: It starts arguments and ignites fires that not even the firefighters can extinguish. My tongue, this sword of fire, has become an instrument of life and death.

People: Lord, we're made in your likeness.

Leader: "If you want it, you can come and get some," is my attitude. I am a Samurai. I am not the first, nor am I the last. I tried to put this all in my past, but it presently keeps finding itself in my future.

People: Lord, we're made in your likeness.

Leader: I don't want to keep living this way. I am ready to lay down my sword and shield to study war no more, but it's hard. People keep coming for me when I never sent for them.

All: Lord, I am your child and I need you. Please help me control my tongue because we praise you and curse our brothers and sisters with the same tongue. And this should not be. Amen.

Curry F. Butler, Africana Liturgical Resources, Pentecost Package #2, ed. Safiyah Fosua.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, Jesus taught us “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” We offer our gifts to you knowing they are part of our treasure, and we do so with the hope that our hearts, our actions, and the words of our tongues will likewise follow. We acknowledge that the tongues that praise you are often the ones that hurt you, when we use them to diminish or discount one of your precious children. Guide our hearts, minds, and tongues to the words that bring you joy. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen. (James 3:1-12)

***CLOSING HYMN** - Lord I Lift Your Name On High

Verse

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

CCLI Song # 117947

Rick Founds

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***BENEDICTION (Please Rise)**

Lord, I humbly come to you this day to tell you thank you. You have shown us so much compassion despite our tongues. We have hurt our neighbors, our friends, and our families. Bridle our tongues, God, that we might speak love and not hate. Bridle our tongues, God, that we might uplift and not tear down. Bridle our tongues, God, that we might continue to win more citizens for the kingdom. It's in the name of the one who saved us, Jesus Christ, that we pray. Amen.

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***POSTLUDE**

***DISMISSAL**