

First United Methodist Church of Evergreen Park, 11am worship 10.25.2020
Pentecost 21A

Prelude

Call to Worship

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were born, before you delivered the whole world,
from everlasting past to everlasting future, you are God. In you we are home;
we dream, we flourish, we rejoice. We dwell in you.

Prayer of the Day

Loving God, you not only welcome us, you receive us into yourself.
Give us courage to be so open to others, to let them become so dear to us,
that we might share not only your gospel but also our lives, through Christ,
who makes room for us all. Amen.

Hymn “O God Our Help in Ages Past” #117 UM Hymnal

Call to Confession

Our spirits are like new grass; at the dawn they spring up fresh, but by sunset they
dry up and wither, blown away in spiritual death. Let us confess our frailty before
our merciful God.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess; we do not live as those worthy to be entrusted with the good
news of your grace; Our actions and motives are mixed, and impure. Lord, reassure
and cleanse us, in Jesus' name. Amen. *the silence*

Words of Assurance

Beloved ones, believe again the gospel, that in Christ we are accepted as we are.
Believe that we are forgiven, and loved with delight. Believe that we are the
church, the body of Christ, called to love one another as gentle children of God.

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, Jesus, your understanding of Scripture astonished and humbled all around
you. Send your Spirit to illumine this Word that our understanding and wisdom
may be increased. Amen.

The Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

The Gospel Reading Matthew 22:34-46

Sermon

Invitation to our Offering

God is unfailing in blessing and love. With thankful hearts,
let us offer up to God a portion of what God has given to us.

Offertory Music

The Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we thank you for these gifts. Multiply them, and enable the work of love
and the righteousness of your kingdom in the world. We thank and praise you.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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 "Blest Be The Tie That Bind" #557 UM Hymnal

Benediction

Beloved family of God, be gracious and kind to all, with both the gentle
acceptance of a child and the wise maturity of a compassionate mother.
May the Lord bless you and lay loving hands upon you, that you may be
strengthened to continue to walk in the faith that others have passed on to you,
to move ahead into the promised land.

Postlude

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*The mission of the United Methodist Church
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."*

Household Prayer: Morning

From everlasting to everlasting you are God. Carry me today in your steadfast love that I may rejoice and be glad all my days, living life fully without fear of the end. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Eternal God, a thousand years in your sight are like this day gone by, years swept away like a dream. May I rest in the assurance that even in the sleep of death, I will be awakened to an eternal morning, through the power of Christ, the resurrection. So let it be.

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1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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Zoom Worship link:

In-person worship is at 11am in First Evergreen Park UMC sanctuary, and we will need to continuously monitor the health situation in our county, region and state, to be as safe as possible.

We also plan to continue online worship at 9:30 a.m. with Palos UMC. The Zoom meeting link is the same from week to week.

Join us for Zoom Worship every Sunday at 9:30 AM by going to this web address: <https://tinyurl.com/ya24rvyz>

Meeting ID: 720 0712 1988 Password: PalosUMC

We are also able to offer a phone-in option as well, for those without computer or internet access. This can be done from any landline or cell phone. You will be able to hear the service through your phone, but will be muted on our end.

First, call: **1-312-626-6799**

When prompted, enter the following: Meeting ID: **720 0712 1988** followed by #

You are not the host, so just enter #

Password: **896419** followed by #

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Next Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Sunday. If you have names of friends or loved ones that have died in the past year (since last November 1) that you wish to include in our bulletin, please email or call the church office.

First Evergreen Park UMC Church Conference is Thursday, November 12, 6:15pm SPRC, 7pm Church Conference, on Zoom, with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Jacques Conway presiding.