

SCRIPTURE

Mark 4:26-34

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

HOMILY *Sleepy Similes and Seeds that become Shrubs*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION*

8:30am
see insert

INVITATION

HYMN* Hymn of Promise, UMH 707

BENEDICTION

Go now in peace, **Stand firm in your faith. Be strong. Be brave.**
Let everything you do be done in love.

POSTLUDE Chaconne by Louis Couperin

OFFERING— Your generosity and gifts enable Rayne's ministries, thank you! Offerings will be received in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary behind the last pew. You can also give online (raynola.org/contribute), by texting "giverayne" to 73256, or using the QR code.



WE WELCOME ALL— All are invited to participate fully in the life of this community of faith and love regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual orientation. We welcome all with open hearts, open minds, and open doors! Those who wish to become members are encouraged to contact: marissa@raynenola.org.



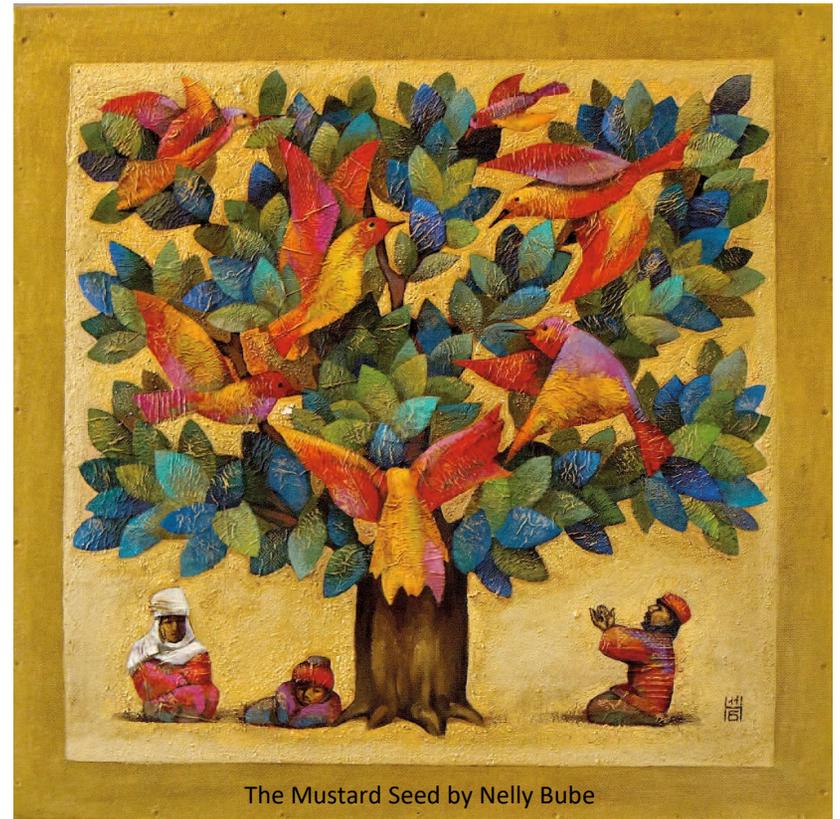
Rayne
Memorial United Methodist Church

for 145 years shining the light of God's love and grace

3900 Saint Charles Avenue - New Orleans, Louisiana 70115
504.899.3431 - www.raynenola.org

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 13, 2021



The Mustard Seed by Nelly Bube

THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

Welcome to All!

All are invited to participate in any of our activities,
and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

GATHERING

Rev. Marissa Teauseau Horvath

PRELUDE

Aria

by Flor Peeters
Marcus St. Julien

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Mary Brown 8:30 am
Shaun Darnall 11:00 am

Small as a mustard seed and lofty as a cedar:

The kingdom of God is growing.

While we sleep and rise night and day:

The kingdom of God is growing.

The low are brought high; the high are brought low:

The kingdom of God is growing, its large branches are home to all kinds of people!

HYMN*

Great is Thy Faithfulness, UMH 140

PRAYER

May Jesus, our source of hope, be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: **Creating God, to you belong the mysteries of the universe. You transform shepherds into kings, the smallest seeds into magnificent trees, and hardened hearts into loving ones. Bless us with your life-giving spirit, re-create us in your image, and shape us to your purposes, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

11:00am

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 RED STEPS

A Special Time for Our Children

At this time, children age 3 years old through 2nd grade may attend children's church in the education building.

OFFERING

Joseph Tate, 8:30am

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown
Charles Wesley, arr. K. Lee Scott

Come, O thou traveler unknown, whom still I hold but cannot see.
My company before is gone and I am left alone with thee.
With Thee all night I mean to stay and wrestle til the break of day.

I need not ask thee who I am, my sin and misery declare.
Thyself hast called me by my name,
Look on thy hands and read it there.
But who I ask thee, who art Thou?
Tell me thy name and tell me now.

Tis Love! Tis love!
Thou died for me, I hear thy whisper in my heart.
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,
pure universal love thou art.
To me, to all thy mercies move, thy nature and thy name is love!

Leonard Raybon, 11:00am

Sing with Grace in Your Heart
Händel, arr. Fredrickson

Sing with grace unto the Lord, sing with grace in your hearts,
singing praises unto our God; giving thanks, thanks to God,
singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. All our blessings come
from him, Praise our God. Great is our God, gracious and kind;
sing with thanksgiving unto the Lord. Praise the Lord upon the harp;
let all nations sing his praise. Praise him, sun and stars of light,
singing songs of praise unto our God.

*The People Standing

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness, UMH 140

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

HYMN

Hymn of Promise, UMH 707

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.

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.

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION*

All are welcome at the table!

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent
of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

**Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way of peace. Come into the brokenness of
our lives and our land with your healing love. Help us to be willing to bow
before you in true repentance, and to bow to one another in real
forgiveness. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, melt our hard hearts and
consume our pride and prejudice which separate us. Fill us, O Lord, with
your perfect love, which casts out our fear, and binds us together in that
unity which you share with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

(silence)

PARDON

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who
loves is born of God and knows God. God's love was revealed among us in
this way: God sent his only Son in the world so that we might live through
him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise
your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of
your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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.**

*Please place your empty communion vessel in the brown paper bag
and leave it at your seat as you depart.*