

SCRIPTURE

Acts 12:6-16

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. 11 Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel." Meanwhile Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed.

HOMILY

Peter is Knocking

Rev. Zoe Garry

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION*

8:45am, *see insert*

For the Bread Which You Have Broken, 614

We welcome you, as your mask remains on, to come forward to share the Bread and Cup. Upon receiving the Meal, simply remove your mask at that moment, then return to your pew with your mask on. Or, if you would like to remain where you are, we welcome you to utilize the Communion packet at your pew.

HYMN*

O God of Every Nation, 435

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

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 (raynenola.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: jay@raynenola.org.



Rayne

Memorial United Methodist Church

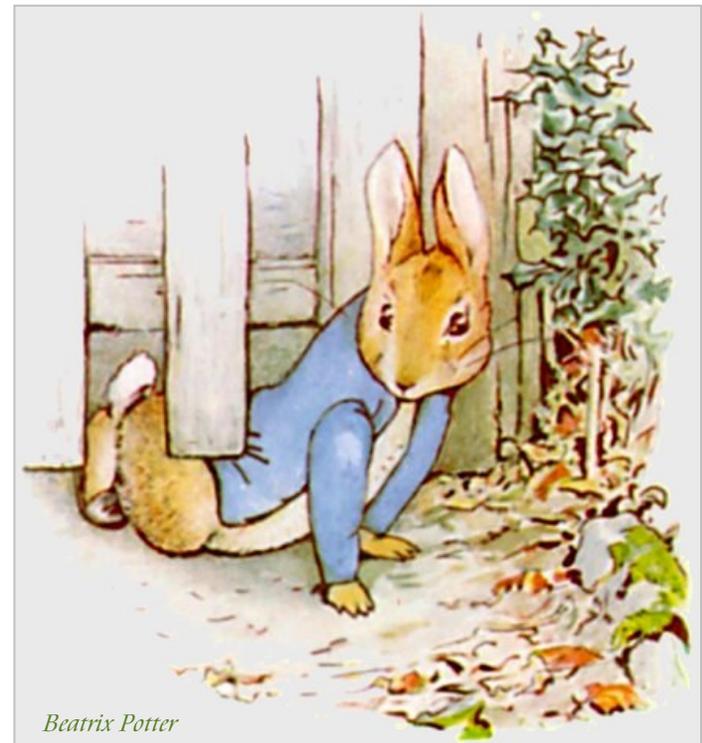
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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 14, 2021



Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Wendy Rihner's parents,
Paul and Evelyn Stroud.

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

In the presence of God, we find the fullness of joy. May this time of worship be full of joy, surprises, healing and love.

PRELUDE

Marcus St. Julien

CALL TO WORSHIP* *responsively*

Christ is waiting here for us. **To welcome us.**

To show us the path of life. **To love us.**

To hear our prayers. **To be present with us today and always.**

Come and worship. **We are here to praise the Lord.**

HYMN*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, 103

PRAYER

The faithful love of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of grace and glory, you gave your Son Jesus Christ a realm where all peoples, nations and languages might serve him; we praise you for this gift of everlasting love. Make us faithful followers of our living Lord that we may always hear his word, follow his teachings, and live in his Spirit. Bring forth the day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord, for the greater glory of your name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

11am

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 People Standing*

SUNG RESPONSE

Where Charity and Love Prevail, 549
(verses 1 & 6)

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

MINISTRY MOMENT

Nola Wesley Campus Ministry, Alex Sloan

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 *Ushers with offering plates will pass by each pew. Please pass your
gift to the usher or place in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.*

Randy Bunnell, 8:45am

For the Mounts Shall Depart

From Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed;
but Thy kindness shall not depart from me;
neither shall the covenant of Thy peace be removed.

Rebecca Sullivan, 11am

Man was Dark

Gustav Holst

Man was dark, yet he made himself light; he was weak, yet he daunted
the bull with his herd; he was frail, yet he bitted the horse; he was
mean, yet he went with his flint where the elephant haunted and
made his house from rocks and his fence of the gorse. He got himself
bread from the grass and his cup from the clay, his coat from the
beast or the flax or the bird in the tree;
being finless he followed the fish to the depths of the bay,
being wingless, he woke him a sail and adventured to the sea.

With his comrades he builded the city and gilded the spires; his
thought proves the age of the rocks and the laws of the sky; he bridled
the air and the waters to do his desires, his wisdom foretells
where the comets or planet come by. Yet forever his restlessness
craves for a peace upon earth, for a comfort to come to his soul from
a wisdom more true; his want is a blow to his pride and a check to his
mirth, and he dies crying out in his need, and his son cries a new.

HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, 103

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

COMMUNION

For the Bread Which You Have Broken, 614

1. For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
2. By this pledge that you do love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.
3. With our sainted ones in glory seated at the heavenly board, may the church that's waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.
4. In your service, Lord, defend us, in our hearts keep watch and ward; in the world where you have sent us, let your kingdom come, O Lord.

HYMN

O God of Every Nation, 435

1. O God of every nation, of every race and land, redeem your whole creation with your almighty hand; where hate and fear divide us, and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us, and heal our strife-torn world.
2. From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, from pride of race and station and blindness to your way, deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.
3. Lord, strengthen all who labor that all may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, Lord, let your voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.
4. Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign, and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

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

**Almighty God,
the road of the faithful is hard and filled with challenges.
Sometimes we complain. Sometimes we take a different road.
Sometimes we allow others to lead us astray.
Sometimes we forget to follow the way of your mercy with justice.
Forgive us, we pray. Help us meet whatever challenges we face.
Help us rise when we fall.
Help us move toward your wisdom and peace.**

(silence)

PARDON

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just; God will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 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