



Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

October 4, 2020

**18th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday**

Prelude "This Is My Father's World" Traditional English

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Praise the Lord! Let us worship the generous Creator of all nations. .

P: We gather to worship because we are called to be the people of God.

L: Let us rejoice in the great and good God.

P: We thank you, everlasting God, for you gave us your son, Jesus Christ.

L: United, we rejoice in you always, great and good God.

P: We stand in humility, for you continue to strengthen us for your service on earth.

Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" vs. 1 & 3 UMH 140

Scripture Reading Philippians 3:4-14

Children's Time with Mrs. Carney

Opening Prayer

God of all nations, you have called us to be lights in darkness and peace in chaos. As we worship this morning, continue to use us, your church and the world as instruments of your peace. As you use us, let justice, equality and compassion be known and experienced in this world. Give us a spirit of wisdom, a heart for reconciliation and hands of helping that we might be guided on the path of righteousness. And make us models for all who seek to know and follow you. By your grace, grant us health and healing in the world on this World Communion Sunday, we pray, in Jesus name, Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon "Faithful and Fruitful Calling!"

Prayers & Concerns

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God to all nations, you called us out of darkness to be lights of the world. With generous hearts and helping hands, we offer these gifts. Receive them as a sign of our love and gratitude for you son, Jesus Christ. Give renewed love and strength to the world as we use these gifts for you ministry and mission. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Communion

Hymn "Here I Am, Lord" vs. 1 & 3 UMH 593

Benediction

Please join us for "Fellowship of Love Time"
after the service on Zoom.

HYMNS
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther;
there is no shad-ow of turn-ing with thee;
thou chang-est not, thy com-pas-sions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

R Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see;
all I have need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed;
great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth,
thine own dear pres-ence to cheer and to guide;
strength for to-day and bright hope for to-mor-row.
bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side! **R**

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their dark-ness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

R Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you call-ing in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Fine-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat-is-fied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **R**



The flowers on the altar today are given ...

In loving memory of our parents, Roy and Blanche Blandin, and our brother, Warren Blandin and his wife Joan, by Lois, Linnea, and Blanche.

In loving memory of Tilly and Salvy Ciccarelli, by their son Francis and his wife Blanche.

In loving memory of Albert Alley, by Marilyn Donnelly.

In loving memory of Sydney H. Young, by his wife Florence.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Philippians 3:4-14 (NIV)

. . .⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. ⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith

in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46 (NIV)

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. ³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the

vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.” ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.