

# FISK MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 12, 2021 ~ 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
"Remembrance and Celebration of Life Sunday"

\* Indicates all who are able may stand.

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" by John Zundel

PASTOR'S WELCOME Pastor Alecia

## WE WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Alecia

L: This is another day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and give thanks for memories of all those gone ahead to glory.

**P: We are glad and grateful for the lives of all our sisters and brothers who have lived and died in Christ.**

L: Today we worship surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. But we are one in Christ, the Author, and Finisher of our faith.

**P: We praise and worship God because of God's mighty acts in Jesus Christ. We will continue until the final victory is won and we gather as saints at the river.**

\* HYMN How Great Though Art (Verses 1, 2, & 4) UMH 77

GATHERING PRAYER Pastor Alecia

**Eternal and Almighty God, you alone are righteous and glorious. Thank you for this time of remembrance and celebration as we worship. We cannot be parted by life and death from you. So, as we worship, listen to our prayers for comfort and peace and in thanksgiving for all our sisters and brothers who have gone on to glory. Hear us, O God, with your mercy and grace and lead us to the promised home. The one that is not made with human hands but that is eternal in the heavens. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your church now and forever, Amen.**

## WE ATTEND TO THE WORD

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN Susan Carney

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 19 (Pew Bible Page 541) Joanne Billo

\* HYMN "Take Up Thy Cross" (All verses) UMH 415

\* GOSPEL READING Mark 8:27-38 (Pew Bible Page 999) Joanne Billo

SERMON "Lives Well Loved" Pastor Alecia

## WE PRAY

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE AND CELEBRATION OF LIFE (Please see insert.)

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.**

## WE RESPOND

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "As the Deer" by Martin Nystrom

\* DOXOLOGY UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal and Almighty God we are present with our gifts. Bless us and our gifts. Pour out your Holy Spirit to guide us to be one with each other and one in ministry to all of creation. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your church now and forever, Amen**

FISK ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD

\* CLOSING HYMN "Sing with All the Saints in Glory" (Verses 1, 2, & 4) UMH 702

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

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



### Hymn

#### "How Great Though Art" (1, 2, & 4) UMH 77

1 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the \*worlds thy hand have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the \*rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

#### Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! [Refrain]

### SCRIPTURE READING

#### Psalms 19 (NIV)

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
<sup>2</sup> Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.  
<sup>3</sup> They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.  
<sup>4</sup> Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.  
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.  
<sup>5</sup> It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.  
<sup>6</sup> It rises at one end of the heavens  
and makes its circuit to the other;  
nothing is deprived of its warmth.  
<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.  
The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,

making wise the simple.

<sup>8</sup> The precepts of the LORD are right,  
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever.

The decrees of the LORD are firm,  
and all of them are righteous.

<sup>10</sup> They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold;

they are sweeter than honey,  
than honey from the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> By them your servant is warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> But who can discern their own errors?  
Forgive my hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup> Keep your servant also from willful sins;  
may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,  
innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,  
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

### Hymn

#### "Take Up Thy Cross" (All verses) UMH 415

1. "Take up thy cross," the Savior said,  
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me."

2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.

4. Take up thy cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

**GOSPEL READING**  
**Mark 8:27-38 (NIV)**

<sup>27</sup> Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

<sup>28</sup> They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

<sup>29</sup> "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

<sup>30</sup> Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

**Hymn**

**"Sing with All the Saints in Glory" (1, 2, & 4) UMH 702**

1. Sing with all the saints in glory,  
sing the resurrection song!  
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,  
to the former days belong.  
All around the clouds are breaking,  
soon the storms of time shall cease;  
in God's likeness we, awaking,  
know the everlasting peace.

2. O what glory, far exceeding  
all that eye has yet perceived!  
Holiest hearts, for ages pleading,  
never that full joy conceived.  
God has promised, Christ prepares it,  
there on high our welcome waits.  
Every humble spirit shares it;  
Christ has passed th'eternal gates.

4. Life eternal! O what wonders  
crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
when, amidst earth's closing thunders,  
saints shall stand before the throne!  
O to enter that bright portal,  
see that glowing firmament;  
know, with thee, O God Immortal,  
"Jesus Christ whom thou has sent!"

## **IN REMEMBRANCE AND CELEBRATION**

**Pastor:** This morning, we gather to worship this Great and Awesome God. In sorrow, we gather to remember all our brothers and sisters from Fisk United Methodist Church, that have gone ahead to glory. But we also gather in joy to celebrate lives well lived.

**People: They have all transitioned from this life. May we continue to hold fond memories as we live on, and in hope of the eternal life.**

**Liturgist:** Today, we remember and celebrate the great company of the saints. May God's light continue to shine upon them and be gracious unto them.

**People: They have been transitioned from earth to glory. May we continue to celebrate the lives they lived with and among us.**

**Liturgist:** Today we also remember all those who have died from illness, bullying, violence, hunger, hatred, isolation, and the pandemic this past year.

**People: They have all transitioned from earthly homes to homes not made with human hands but that is eternal in the heavens.**

**Liturgist:** As we continue to remember those who are a memory away and celebrate those who are a heartbeat away. May they and all the faithful departed, rest in peace as we give thanks for those still present with us.

*(A moment of silence as we remember and name them in our hearts)*

**Pastor's Prayer:** Eternal God, the giver of life, and every good and perfect gift, we give thanks. Thank you for these lives that were so precious and now rest from their labor. And though we mourn with remembrance, we are blessed and comforted that those gone ahead now rest from their labor.

**People: The victory is ours through Jesus Christ and His gospel. May we continue to live gospel lives on this earth until the final victory is won as we pray the prayer the Lord taught us to pray.....**

**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.**

### **Note: ALTAR FLOWERS**

*Flowers are a sign of God's love for humanity. Flowers on the altar today are to God's glory, the blessing of our Fisk family and in loving and everlasting memory of all our sisters and brothers from Fisk that have gone ahead to glory.*

*May God continue to give us comfort as each one 'Rest in Peace'*

*Pastor Alecia & Family*

*Today we remember the victims and families of the 9/11 event.*