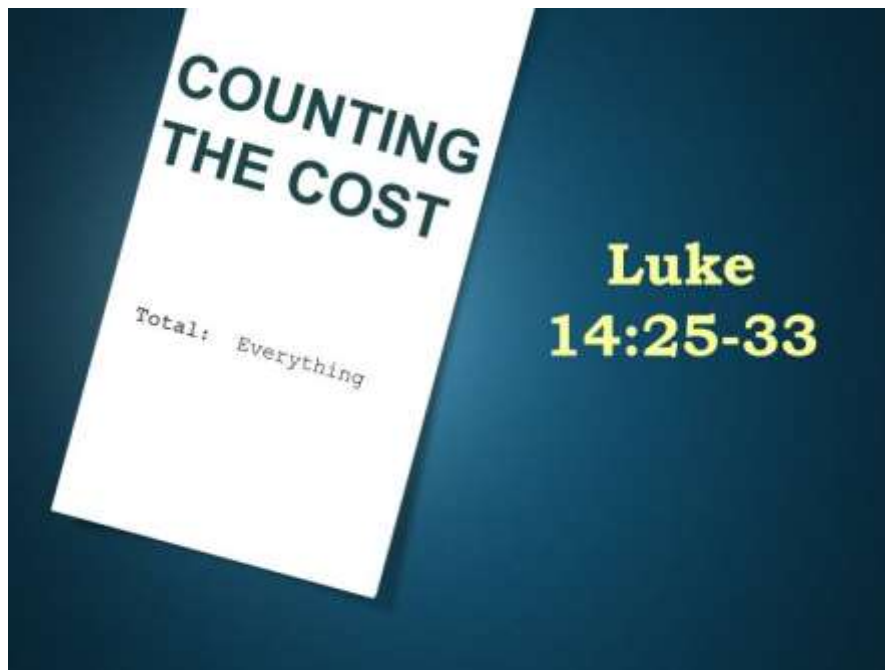


**Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church**  
**September 4, 2022**  
**13th Sunday after Pentecost**



Pastor Russel contact information:  
Phone: (412) 735-5072      Email: [Shulugarussel@gmail.com](mailto:Shulugarussel@gmail.com)  
Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask the greeter or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

.....  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2022  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
.....

**CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING**

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION**

\*OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'In the Cross of Christ I Glory'

No. 295 Vs. 1, 2 & 3

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

**People: Even before we speak, God knows us completely.**

Pastor: The Holy One knows us and sustains us, even in our moments of confusion and doubt.

**People: Who can count the thoughts of God? They are more than all the sands of the desert.**

Pastor: Like clay in the hand of the potter, we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

**People: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.**

OPENING PRAYER

**O Lord, you are the potter, we are the clay. Take our lives, O God, and remake us anew. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may be filled with living water. Fit us for your purposes, that we may be wholly yours. Amen.**

INTROIT

'Have Thine Own Way, Lord'

No. 382, vs. 1 & 3

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

**CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

**People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."*

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 18: 1-11

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Alleluia'

No. 186

*"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"*

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

**People: and also with you.**

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Luke 14: 25-33

\*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'Counting the Cost'

Pastor Russel Shuluga

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

### CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

#### INVITATION AND CALL TO CONFESSION

The bread is ready, the cup is filled, the table is set.  
Let all who are hungry for the love of God, come and be fed.  
Let all who are thirsty for new life, come and share the cup.  
Let all who want to follow Jesus, come and join the feast.

But first, let us confess our sin.

#### GENERAL CONFESSION

**O God, your call for justice is so clear that we are amazed at how easily we fail to hear you over the din of daily life. We want to cease to do evil. We want to learn to do good. Yet, we rarely do all we can to rescue, defend, and plead for those in need. As you have sought us out, so we seek your pardon. Grant us courage, we pray, as persons, as communities, and as nations, to bring about the justice you desire. Amen.**

#### SILENT CONFESSION

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When we fall short in life, God puts us on the potter's wheel and fashions us into vessels fit for the kingdom. This journey of transformation is rarely pleasant, but it is necessary for us to be made new and whole. Amen.

HYMN OF ASURANCE

'Amazing Grace'

No. 378 V. 1

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**With these gifts, we lay down all that we have and all that we are, and take up the cross with Jesus. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

THE SURSUM CORDA

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

In this stillness we come, bringing our need, reaching out to you, Jesus Christ.

We acknowledge you as creator of all, with the Father, with the Spirit, three in one, from before time a fellowship of infinite love.

From you all things were made, you have formed us in your very image made to love and be loved.

In your desire for us you chose a people, claimed the family of Abraham and Sarah for your own and brought them into living Covenant, lasting relationship.

When they broke this and rejected you, you sent prophets, and then, your own Son, born Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus showed us the Father, in all he said and did.

Jesus died on the cross, destroying the power of sin and death.

Jesus sent upon his people his very own Spirit to bring us close to God our Father to empower the work of God in the world, through us.

We praise you:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered his disciples close around him, and in that Upper Room spoke to them about his death and showed them as he took bread and broke it gave it to them saying

This is a sign of my body broken for you, given for you.

Then he took the cup, he gave thanks to God and he declared it to be a sign of the Covenant remade,

a New Covenant, sealed with his very own blood poured out for all for the forgiveness of sins and the restoring of the world.

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, now and forever. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy.**

**We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table, but only say the word and we shall be healed.**

## LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
**grant us your peace.**

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

'One Bread, One Body'

No. 620

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**With grateful hearts we give you thanks and praise, O God for you are here, you are with us in our hunger you have met us at our point of need. In our pain and anxiety you have breathed your healing calm. In our emptiness you have filled us with yourself. Lord Jesus, to you be all glory, honor and praise here and everywhere, now and through eternity. So send us out with grace and with courage sustain us with your peace. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

### \*BENEDICTION

With empty hands and open hearts, go forth to follow Jesus in love and service to the world. **Amen.**



### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'  
***A-men, a-men, a – men.***

No 898

### \*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'Living for Jesus'

TFWS No. 2149 Vs. 1 & 4

### \*POSTLUDE

***WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD***



Gaebel Family—(Kurt’s father/Melanie’s father-in-law) - passed away  
Beverly (Larry’s sister/Kim’s sister-in-law) - cancer treatments  
Mifflin Avenue Church—passing of Chris and Richard  
Those affected by the violence in our world  
Don Donaldson (Ginnie’s Friend) - heart issues  
Sandy Nelson - prayers needed  
People of Ukraine & Afghanistan  
Peacemakers  
Barbara Thaw –continued prayers  
Judy Spencer Baker - continued prayers  
Aubri (Ginnie’s granddaughter) – diagnosed with breast cancer  
Irene Chenot (Barbara's friend's mom) - cancer  
Joe (Ginnie & Sue’s cousin) - diagnosed with myeloma cancer  
Gary (Ginnie's son) - continued good health  
Pastor Russel W. Shuluga  
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi  
Rev. Deborah Ackley-Killian — Pittsburgh District Superintendent  
People in African nations—let there be enough food for them  
Prayers that the violence will stop  
Those who are traveling  
Family & friends of those who have COVID  
Family & friends of those who have passed away from COVID  
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church  
Those in silence needing prayers  
Western PA Conference

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mary Kilgour – September 5<sup>th</sup>  
Megan (McQuade) Pease – September 8<sup>th</sup>  
Leo Mitchell – September 10<sup>th</sup> – Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday



**Trustees Meeting** – Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the JW Room  
**Mifflin Avenue Zoom Church Council meeting** – Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.  
**Mifflin Avenue Church Conference** – Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM – combined conference with South Avenue UMC. Will be held in



Mifflin Avenue welcomes Hae Hyun Park as our interim pianist for the month of September.



**Clothing & Shoe Bin** – we have received a larger clothing bin for outside. When you are cleaning your closets bring your reusable items and items that need to be recycled and place them in the bin. The proceeds we receive from this bin, are used for the Mifflin Avenue Good Samaritan Fund.



## MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES IN OHIO

Mifflin Avenue is participating with South Avenue in the collection of used pill containers. They are delivered to Cincinnati. The bottles are distributed to groups going on medical mission trips around the world.

**Please be sure that labels are completely removed and any sticky residue is gone. They will not accept them with anything on containers.** There is a collection bin under bulletin board in office hall. Thank you!



## **SEPTEMBER MISSION OPPORTUNITY**

### **“CHURCH WORLD SERVICE”**

Our Mission Opportunity throughout the month of September is in support of Church World Service (CWS) CWS is an ecumenical ministry of 36 Christian denominations working with partners to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice around the world. Note that 25% of funds raised through the CROP Hunger Walk will go to Wilkinsburg Community Ministry and 75% goes to the global humanitarian development work of Church World Service ([cwsglobal.org](http://cwsglobal.org)) – a four-star rated charity from Charity Navigator with over 75 years of experience).

For nearly half a century, CROP Hunger Walks have ensured that more people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. From combating droughts in Nicaragua to providing agricultural training in Indonesia to stocking shelves in hundreds of food pantries across the United States, CROP Hunger Walks help end hunger by raising funds to support local food programs and the international anti-hunger work of Church World Service.

The 2022 CROP Hunger Walk will be held on October 9th and will begin and end at South Avenue United Methodist Church. The walk distance is 6 miles, with an optional 1-mile walk. Registration begins at 1:00 and the walk begins at 2:00. Mifflin Avenue does not have a CROP Walk Team but asks the congregation for monetary donations for CWS.

Please consider making a monetary donation to help CWS continue to shape a better world for the hungry, for the thirsty, for survivors of disaster, and for vulnerable children.

If you would like to support Church World Service, make your check payable to “MAUMC” and write “CROP walk” in the memo line or on your envelope. Thank you!