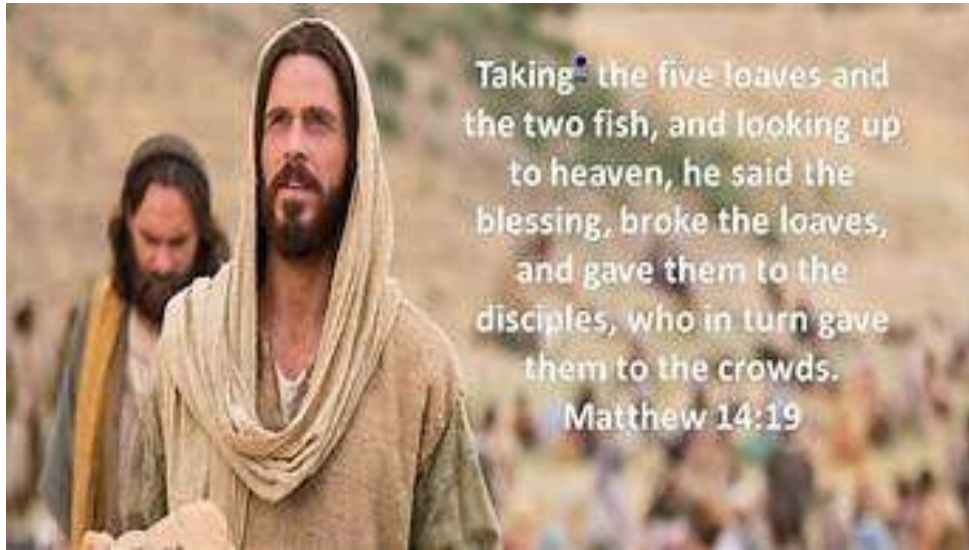


**AUGUST 6, 2023**  
**10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



***Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church***

Pastor Russel contact information:

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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 an usher 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.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

11:15 a.m.

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### CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

#### PRELUDE

*(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)*

#### GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

#### GATHERING WORDS

We thank our patient and persistent God for calling us here today. May we keep our hearts and minds open for God's words of transforming love.

### CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

#### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'When Morning Gilds the Skies'

No. 185

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Just when we are feeling most discouraged, God bursts into our lives with healing mercy.

**People: Lord, listen to our hearts, our cries, and our prayers.**

HYMN: 'Surely the Presence of the Lord'

No. 328

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

Pastor: Give us peace and hope in our spirits.

**People: Direct us in ways of service in your name!**

HYMN: 'Surely the Presence of the Lord'

No. 328

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

Pastor: Praise be to God!

**People: AMEN!**

OPENING PRAYER

In the darkness of night and the brightness of day, you, O Lord, are present to us. As we wrestle with situations which seem to drain us of our energy; as we struggle to find out who you call us to be, you reach out to us with reassurance of empowerment and courage for the days ahead. Calm our spirits and prepare our hearts and lives to receive your awesome grace. It is in Jesus' name that we pray.  
**AMEN.**

INTROIT

'Abide with Me'

No. 700, V. 3

*I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

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 Is a Lamp'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

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

FIRST LESSON

Romans 9:1-5

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

'Alleluia'

No. 186

\*GOSPEL LESSON

The Lord be with you,  
**And also with you.**  
A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew  
**Glory to You, O Lord.**

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Matthew 14:13-21

THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

The Gospel of the living Christ.  
**Glory to You, oh Lord**

\*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'YOU, YES YOU!'

Rev. Russel W. Shuluga

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

GENERAL CONFESSION

Lord of mercy and hope, we come before you with fear. We know that we have fallen short of being the kind of disciples that you have called us to be. We have turned our backs on people in need; we have closed our ears to the cries of the voiceless. And so we hesitate to come before you because we believe that you are disappointed in us. Remind us again that you are merciful and your love transforms and changes our lives. When we falter and slide off the path of hope you place before us, you "pick us up and dust us off" and put us again on the trail, confident of your faithful presence with us. Forgive us our weakness. Strengthen us and give us courage; help us to be bearers of your good news of peace. We pray this in Christ's name. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Feel God's healing love pouring over you and into your lives. Know that God delights in each one of you and will always be present to you. This is indeed the Good News of the Gospel. AMEN.

HYMN OF ASURANCE

'Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead us'

No. 381 V. 1

\*SHARING THE PEACE

In times of plenty and want, God meets us in our need. As sisters and brothers in Christ, let us turn and draw strength from one another, by sharing signs of Christ's peace.

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In gratitude for all that we have received from our gracious Lord, we offer our tithes and gifts for the ministry of this church in this world which hungers and thirsts for love and peace.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**With great joy, we present these tithes and gifts for the ministry of this church. Be with each of us as we, too, commit ourselves to lives of joyful, thankful service. In Jesus' name. AMEN**

# CELEBRATION THROUGH HOLY EUCHARIST

## THE INVITATION

Pastor: Eternal God, we are hungry in body and spirit.

**People: We are empty and long to be filled.**

Pastor: We are hungry and long to be fed.

**People: We are lost and long to be found.**

Pastor: Heal our brokenness through the breaking of this bread and the sharing of this cup.

**All: Then pick up the pieces of our lives, just as Jesus gathered up the fragments of bread and fish after he fed the five thousand.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Holy Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is praised among all peoples.

Therefore we praise you,  
joining our voices with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might Heaven and earth are full...Full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes In the name of the  
Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

You are holy, Almighty One! Blessed are you, Jesus Christ! In the power of the Spirit you created all things,  
blessed them, and called them good. You called to yourself a people to make your mercy and truth known in  
all the world. We betrayed your calling;

**You were faithful.**

We wandered from the way;

**You called us to return, and led us home.**

And still we turned from your ways, abused your creatures, and made ourselves slaves to sin and death.  
At the right time you came and dwelt among us, as one of us, bringing good news to the poor, healing the  
sick, raising the dead, sharing table with the unrighteous, and teaching the way that leads to life.

By your incarnation, life, suffering, execution and resurrection You gave birth to your church, delivered us from  
slavery and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood."

Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us, we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has come among us. Christ has died.  
Christ has risen. Christ abides with us.  
Christ will come again.**

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Spirit on us

**Pour out your Spirit on us**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts

**Pour out your Spirit on these gifts**

Make these gifts the body and blood of Christ

**Make us, through them, Christ's body alive in the world.**

## LAMB OF GOD

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,  
**Give us your peace.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Lord, you now have set your servants free to go in peace as you have promised. For these eyes of ours have seen the Savior whom you have prepared for all the world to see! Blessing and honor and glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

### \*BENEDICTION

Pastor: We are blessed by the hand that leads us to a land flowing with milk and honey.

**People: We go with God's blessings.**

Pastor: We are blessed by the one who heals our wounds and makes us whole.

**People: We go with the blessings of the one who meets us face to face.**



\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

No 898

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling'

No. 348 V. 1 & 4

\*POSTLUDE

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



John McQuade—upcoming surgery  
Harry, MAUMC custodian—upcoming surgery  
Sharon S.—diabetes complications  
Scott (Paulette's son) - cardiac Lyme disease  
Jean Winter—Prayers needed  
Lainee Rivers (Kim's friend) – Prayers needed  
Dave McEchern (Kim's friend) – prayers needed  
Kristina Terrell (Kim's friend) – prayers needed  
Virginia Atkinson  
Those affected by gun violence  
Ellie Holderbaum (Ginnie's family friend 19<sup>th</sup> year old daughter) - recovery from surgery  
Annie (Viehland's friend) - recovery from multiple surgery  
Families who are traveling  
Seth (Robert Morris's son) - accident  
People of Turkey & Syria  
People of East Palestine, Ohio  
President Carter—in hospice  
Jim White (Ginnie's son) - recovery from rotator cuff surgery  
Steven Akers—health concerns  
Pastor Janet Hellner-Burris—health concerns  
Judy Spencer Baker - continued prayers  
Aubrie (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  
Rev. Russel W. Shuluga  
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi  
Rev. Paul Ritchey— Pittsburgh/Greensburg DS  
Peacemakers  
People of Ukraine  
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church  
United Methodist Church