

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Matthew 20: 1-16

\*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

'The Good Old Days'

Rev. Russel Shuluga

### CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In gratitude for all that we have received, let us offer our gifts and tithes to the Lord this day.  
AMEN.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Generous God, you have blessed us with so much. Take these gift and cause them to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us. AMEN.**

### CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

\*BENEDICTION

Go forth into God's world as God's own children. Let the love of Christ be reflected in your life and your deeds. Go with joy to serve the Lord. AMEN.



\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'

No. 898

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'O Jesus, I Have Promised'

No. 396 V. 1 & 4

\*POSTLUDE

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

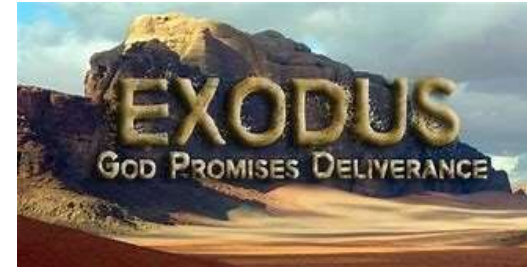
## Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

**September 24, 2023**  
**17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor Russel's contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072 Email: 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 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 AM

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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

God showers us with blessings, even when we complain. Perhaps especially when we complain. This is good news indeed!

### CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Lift Every Voice and Sing'

No. 519

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the midst of joy and celebration.....

**People: We lift our voices in praise to you, O Lord.**

HYMN

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

No. 140 (Chorus only)

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy Faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Pastor: In the midst of trials and sorrows.....

**People: We lift our voices in prayer to you, O Lord.**

HYMN

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

No. 140 (Chorus only)

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy Faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Pastor: Throughout all our days we call out to God.....

**People: We rest confident in God's love for us as we sing.**

HYMN

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

No. 140 (Chorus only)

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy Faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

## OPENING PRAYER

**As we sing our praise to you, O Lord, we remember the multitude of blessings you have given us. We are mindful of the ways in which you have lifted us when we have fallen low. Be with us this day as we gather to hear your word for our lives. AMEN.**

INTROIT

'Morning Has Broken'

No. 145 V 1 & 3

PRESENTATION OF 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BIBLE

JOHN LACHLAN MITCHELL

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

### CALL TO CONFESSION

May we prepare our hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

### GENERAL CONFESSION

**You know how fickle we are, O Lord. We proclaim your presence with us and then we behave in ways which run counter from your word. We get caught up in our own needs and whine about the injustices we feel in our lives. Help us to place our trust in your mercy and your compassionate love. Forgive us when we stray from your ways and wander into paths of self-pity and self-destruction. Lift us from the deep swamp and put us back on track. Give us confidence in your presence and your direction throughout our lives, for we ask these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.**

### SILENT CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Feel the comforting power of God's love and mercy in your lives. God is with us through all our experiences. Though we try we cannot stray from God's love. Rejoice! This is the good news for all of us! AMEN.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'Give Thanks'

TFWS No. 2036

## 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

Exodus 16: 2-15

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"***

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

**People: and also with you.**

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

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