

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'Trusting God'

Pastor Russel Shuluga

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As recipients of God's steadfast love and grace, let us offer gifts of gratitude in our tithes and offering.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

'Intrmezzo'

Herman Schroeder

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of steadfast love, your bounty knows no bounds, For the abundant gifts in our lives, we thank you. For the peace that passes all understanding, we praise you. For keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, we honor you. Receive the gifts we bring you this day and help us stay focused on things that are excellent and admirable, holy and just, righteous and pure. AMEN.

## CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

\*BENEDICTION

You have received blessing upon blessing from the Lord. Now go into the world offering hope and peace to all people you meet. Be involved in justice and healing ministries in the name of the Lord.

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\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'

No. 898

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'God Will Take Care of You'

No. 130, Vs. 1 & 4

\*POSTLUDE

'fanfare'

Nicolas Lemmens

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

## Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

October 15, 2023

**20th Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor Russel's contact information:

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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.

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**CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING**

PRELUDE 'toccat in C major' Johann Pachelbel  
*(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)*

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

Come, let us enter this time of worship with great joy! Let us celebrate the goodness of God! Let all the people shout and praise God's name! Happy are those people who feel the peaceful presence of God!

**CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION**

OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above' No. 126

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: From a world where many gods are served.  
**People: We come to worship God our Creator and Redeemer.**  
Pastor: From a world where many goals are pursued,  
**People: We come to know again the One we are to follow.**  
Pastor: From a world where many trust only in human power,  
**People: We come to put our trust in the power of God's Spirit.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Holy God, we come from a world that is calling us to worship many idols. We come from a world that beacons us to put our trust in everything and anyone but you. God of mercy, we come into your house this day to worship you and you alone May our worship reveal our complete trust in your love and care. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.**

INTROIT 'Trust and Obey' No. 467, Vs. 1 & 4

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

**CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON**

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

GENERAL CONFESSION

**Shepherd King, when we lose our way and worship the gods of our neighbors, the gilded idols of success and money and status, it is often because we have deliberately walked away from your mountain and have not been content to wait for your Spirit to move in our midst. We have strayed, as your people, and we seek your guidance now so we might return to your fold. Forgive us. Reclaim us. AMEN.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Feel the powerful warmth of God's love for you! God is with you, healing and restoring your lives and bringing you peace. This is the good news from our persistent and patient God. AMEN.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE 'Blessed Assurance' No. 369, V. 1

**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 32: 1-14

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"*

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.**

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ Matthew 22: 1-14

\*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.  
**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

\*GLORIA PATRI No. 70