

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

June 16, 2024

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day

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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP-11:15 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE 'Suite for Organ and Trumpet' G. F. Handel

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

Come, bless the Lord with me! For the Lord is like a father to his children compassionate and merciful, filled with endless love .He surrounds us with love and mercy and fills our lives with good things! Let's prepare our hearts to worship God together!

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FOR THE LIGHT

'This Is My Father's World' No. 144

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come to God who gathers us in.

People: We come to God who nurtures us like a father.

Pastor: Come to God whose arms are open and waiting.

People: We come to God who welcomes and forgives us.

Pastor: Come to God who journeys with us.

People: We come to God who sees us as we really are and loves us anyway.

Pastor: Come, praise our loving nurturing God!

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: O God, Father that you are, come into our midst.

People: O God, from you we understand fatherhood.

Pastor: O God, you are the good Father.

People: O God, you are the true Father.

Pastor: O God, Father that you are, be with us now and always.

All: Amen.

INTROIT 'Glorify Thy Name' TFWS No. 2016 V. 1

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE MEN OF OUR CONGREGATION

A LITANY FOR FATHER'S DAY

Our Lord Jesus Christ called God his heavenly Father and Joseph his earthly father. Let us come before our heavenly Father with our gratitude, praying for God's blessing and offering up all our experiences with our earthly fathers in prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, we pray your blessing upon the fathers, step-fathers, adopted fathers, and grandfathers of our lives.

People: Good God, bless our fathers.

Pastor: We pray for your blessing upon our uncles, brothers, mentors, and friends who have been our examples and role models.

People: Bless them, O Lord.

Pastor: We pray for your strength for men who are tired and weary each day, yet feel the weight of responsibility upon them.

People: Strengthen them, O Lord.

Pastor: We pray in gratitude for the fathers who have cared for us, protected us, guided us, and taught us.

People: We thank you, O Lord.

Pastor: We lift up the imperfections of our fathers, who tried the best they could, who did not know how to try, and who made mistakes along the way.

People: Forgive them and uphold them, O Lord.

Pastor: Let us pray for those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

People: Comfort them and grant them peace, O Lord.

Pastor: Let us pray for those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

People: Bless them, O Lord.

Pastor: And let us pray for and remember the fathers who have died, but always live on in our memory and whose love continues to sustain us.

People: We thank you O God for the fathers of our memories.

Pastor: We pray your blessing upon the men in our lives that they will follow the example of Joseph, the father of Jesus, to live godly, creative, and loving lives.

People: We thank you, O God, and we bless you.

Pastor: We bless you for the care we have received and ask that you will hold us in the totality and complexity of our experience. We have known joy and care, and we have known failure and pain. Turn our hearts to you that we may see you as our perfect, heavenly Father, from whom all life freely flows. In the name of Jesus, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns one God in glory everlasting. Amen.

HYMN 'Faith of Our Fathers' No. 710
(Anyone wishing to light a candle(s) in honor of or in memory of their father or father-figure is welcome to do so during the singing of the hymn. In celebration of all men and boys, we at Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church wish to bless those in our midst who hold the love of Jesus in their hearts with a small gift.)

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 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

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

*THE GOSPEL IS READ Mark4:26-34

*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 "We Are Family Part 2" Pastor Russel Shuluga

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING
You received from God without payment. Give generously out of God's bounty, living as signs of the kingdom of heaven.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM 'Aria "When Thou art Near" ' J. S. Bach

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER
God of Great gifts, we give you these gifts today knowing that you are the Father of gifts. You mother us constantly providing for us, caring for us. As we have been abundantly provided for, so we give abundantly to the work that you give us to do, the work of the church, the care for those who are poor. Accept these gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION
Pastor: Go forth, as God's beloved children.
People: God's love surrounds us like a father's love.
Pastor: Go in the knowledge of God's comfort and protection.
People: God's strength empowers us to be the best we can be.
Pastor: Go in God's grace,
People: We go to share the love of God with all we meet!



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'When Jesus Called You "Father"

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D ("The Church's One Foundation" No. 545)

**When Jesus called you "Father" in teaching folks to pray,
And when he said we're children who need to trust your way,
O God, he knew your closeness, your guidance from above.
Perhaps in Joseph's caring, he'd learned to trust your love.**

**O God, you seek to save us, no matter what the cost
Our Father, your intention is no one will be lost.
As Jesus called you "Abba," and trusted in your plans,
We trust in you to guide us! Our lives are in your hands.**

*POSTLUDE

'Allegro Maestoso'

G. F. Handel

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD



Brittney – upcoming surgery
Judy Spencer Baker - prayers
Jim Herbert - recovery from fall
Ellen (Jim Herbert's friend) - diagnosed with Lyme Disease
Prayers for Pastor Russel
Prayers for the Shuluga Family
Judy Arthurs - prayers
Chris Clapper (nephew of Ginnie & Sue) - complications from surgery
Those affected by violence
Middle East conflict
Morris's children
Ginnie White – prayers for good health
Those who need prayers and don't ask for prayers
People who are traveling
Those affected by COVID, RSV and the FLU
Those affected by gun violence
Gary White (Ginnie's son) - recovery from rotator cuff surgery
Aubrie (Ginnie's granddaughter) – diagnosed with breast cancer
Joe (Ginnie & Sue's cousin) - diagnosed with myeloma cancer
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Rev. Paul Ritchey - Pittsburgh/Greensburg DS
People of Ukraine
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
United Methodist Church