



CONNECTED IN CHRIST

Watching Over One Another in Love

Valley United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 6, 2021—9:00 a.m.

Gathering Music	<i>Preludio</i> <i>The Voice of Peace</i> <i>Trio, from Organ Sonata XI</i>	Koury Paxton Martini
Welcome		
*Call to Worship	Across the plains and the prairies, Through farmland and within the sunlit skies, God's handiwork is found among us. In our hearts, In our minds, In our hands and our feet, And throughout all the earth, God's joy is found among us. Let us join together as we worship this glorious God together.	
*Opening Hymn	<i>And Are We Yet Alive</i> (UMH 553), stanzas 1, 3-4 1-And are we yet alive, and see each other's face? Glory and thanks to Jesus give for his almighty grace!	

3-What troubles have we seen,
what mighty conflicts past,
fightings without, and fears within,
since we are assembled last!

4-Yet out of all the Lord
hath brought us by his love;
and still he doth his help afford,
and hides our life above.

*Opening Prayer

Author of all humankind, come lift us up to our full humanity as we worship you in this hour. You surround us on every side and are acquainted with all our ways. You know our shallow motives and our deepest thoughts. You are aware of the distinctions we make and the favoritism we express. Yet you welcome us, not as strangers, but as receivers of your grace. We want to worship you and to represent you well. Come among us now near and far, with your transforming power. Amen.

adapted from Lavon Bayler, *Led by Love*, Year B

*Peace

The peace of Christ is with you.
And also with you.

Time with Children

Special Music *Plaza de Toros*, cello solo by Johnathan

Gospel Reading Mark 7.24-30

²⁴ Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. ²⁵ In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. ²⁶ The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

²⁷ "First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

²⁸ "Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

²⁹ Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter."

³⁰ She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Message Did Jesus Just Call that Woman a Dog? Bishop Laurie Haller (rec.)

Call to Prayer *The Church That Breaks Down Walls* (Richard Bruxvoort Colligan), v. 4

4-The church that leads with Christ.
We are the church that leads with Christ.
Following the spirit that breaks down walls,
despite our weak tries Foolish love compels us
to joyous risk for we serve our neighbors' lives.
We are the church that leads with Christ,
leads with Christ.

Time of Prayer

Time of Witness

How do we invite people to church?

Holy Communion

Invitation / Preparation / Offering

Song of Invitation

A Place at the Table (W&S 3149), stanza 1

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and
joy!

Prayer of Confession

So many days, we are like the blind beggar in Mark's gospel, sitting on the
side of the road, hoping to hear the sounds of your return.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

We are like the Syrophenician woman who wasn't afraid to speak her
mind when she needed your help. Or the woman who was sick for so
many years who reached out to touch the hem of your garment.

Loving God, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, when we are unsure how we will survive, or when we
are sick and cannot get well.

Faithful Spirit, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us when our hearts are hardened and we struggle to love, heal, and forgive.

Risen Lord, have mercy on us.

For we are made complete, not by our bank accounts and not in the words of our neighbors, but in You.

Compassionate God, have mercy on us.

We gather, confident that your promise to be among us is always true, confident that you are greater than the trials we face, confident that we are secure in the palm of your hands.

Holy Spirit, have mercy on us. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...And so,

with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,

now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against

us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Receiving the Bread and Cup
Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Closing Song *God Be with You till We Meet Again* (UMH 672), stanzas 1-3

1-God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

2-God be with you till we meet again;
neath his wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain*

3-God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain*

Benediction

Postlude *The Singing Trumpet*

Paxton

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar: Week of June 6-13

Please contact the church office for Zoom links for events happening online.

TODAY, Sunday, June 6	9:00 a.m.	Worship-Holy Communion Fellowship Time-Zoom
Monday, June 7	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts-Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, June 9	4:00 p.m.	Prayer Group
	6:30 p.m.	VBS Team
Thursday, June 10	2:00 p.m.	Antiracism Group
Sunday, June 13	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Movie Night: <i>Miss Juneteenth</i>

Are YOU a Bell-Ringer? With our return to in-person worship, Debbie Sychra is thinking about BELLS. She had just begun leading our Bell Choir when the pandemic hit, but she's thinking about some small ensembles for this summer and a larger group for fall (including our Sept. 19 anniversary celebration!). If you'd be willing to consider joining the group, be in touch with Debbie at 515-707-2850 to learn more.

Vacation Bible School This would be a great weekend to get outside your doors and see who's in your neighborhood. If you see children, invite them to VBS! If you see young adults, ask them if there are kids in their lives, and invite those kids to VBS! If you see older adults, start a conversation about grandchildren, or great grandchildren, and invite THOSE kids to VBS! This is YOUR chance to be a missionary to children who are disconnected from the church, or who will benefit from another connection that week. You never know how a conversation you have today will bear fruit later. Having a reason to start this conversation is huge! You can pick up our VBS flyer/registration form on Sunday or here's the [link](#).

AND, we'd love to have you **join in the VBS Team**, which meets this Wednesday at 6:30, here at the church.

Worship Times and Summer Plans. Thanks to so many of you who offered feedback through our two recent worship-related surveys. Following discussions with our Church Council and our WE Team (Worship & Evangelism), here's a summary of our plans:

- We'll keep our worship time at 9:00, with Sunday School at 10:30. Three-quarters of your responses favored this schedule, with half of those leaning even earlier.
- This summer we'll continue with our 9:00 worship service and livestream, as usual. Once or twice a month we will hold an outdoor service at 10:45, which is the same general

theme and message, but likely a little shorter and some alternate music. We're still working out dates and details, so watch our communications for more on this plan!

- Between now and Tuesday, Pastor Lee will be recording a short YouTube video to share more of what the surveys showed, and the considerations that went into these decisions. Watch for it on our YouTube channel! Again, thanks to all for your care for these questions.

Feed the Kids: Remember to follow along with the Feed the Kids calendar so we can provide food for those in need in our community.

West Des Moines Human Services Need of the Month: Bug Spray and Sunscreen. Feel free to drop items off at the lower doors (just ring the bell) and Emory Cleveland will deliver them to Human Services later this month.