



Valley United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 18, 2021—9:00 a.m.

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

* means please stand as you are able
bold words are your part; regular print is the leader

Gathering Music

God, Known and Unknown
How Good to Be Together

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Welcome

*Call to Worship

PSALM 14, UMH 746

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

**They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds,
there is none that does good.**

The Lord looks down from heaven on all people,
to see if there are any that are wise,
who seek after God.

**They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;
there is none that does good,
no, not one.**

Have they no knowledge, the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and do not call upon the Lord?

**O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When the Lord restores their fortunes,
Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad!**

*Opening Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (UMH 400)

1-Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2-Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3-O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

*Opening Prayer **God, known and unknown,
give us hearts to see the things our eyes have overlooked.
God, named and unnamed,
teach us to know the truth that sets us free.
God, fascinating mystery,**

**show yourself to us in this season,
not as flash or thunder,
but love, softly spoken, poured out upon us,
soaking into our souls and our skin. Amen.**

adapted from *Touch Holiness* 178.1 &
Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, *God, Known & Unknown*

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

Time with Children

Scripture Readings 2 Samuel 11.1-15 NRSV

11 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

2 It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. 3 David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." 4 So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. 5 The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

6 So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. 10 When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" 11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." 12 Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, 13 David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

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

Message	Think Again: How stories get distorted
Call to Prayer	<i>Listening People</i> (Richard Bruxvoort Colligan)
Time of Prayer	
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.
Time of Witness	A time you thought you knew the whole story, but found out you didn't.
Time of Offering	We confess, O God, that we are often overwhelmed by the needs around us. It hurts that we don't have all the answers. We aren't always sure we know the whole truth. Receive our uncertainty and turn it to curiosity and commitment. Receive these offerings as a sign of our resolve to do something, in spite of all we cannot do. Bless these gifts to bring healing, hope, and love in Jesus' name. Amen. <small>inspired by <i>Worship & Song Leader's Edition</i> (2011), 100</small>
*Closing Song	<i>I Love to Tell the Story</i> (UMH 156), stanzas 1, 3-4

1-I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

3-I love to tell the story, 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. *Refrain*

4-I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

*Benediction

Postlude

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar: Week of July 18-July 25

TODAY, Sunday, July 18	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	CD Team Meeting in Sanctuary
Tuesday, July 20	2:00 p.m.	AMOS Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday, July 21	4:00 p.m.	Prayer Group
Saturday, July 24	9:00 a.m.	4th Saturday Work Day
Sunday, July 25	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Outdoor Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Movie Night-Remember the Titans

**(Sheila will be out of the office July 21-26 so please call ahead of stopping by to ensure that someone is available. The church office will be CLOSED on Monday, July 26).*

Looking ahead to the Fall: We're thinking about Sunday School for adults, youth, and children, and would love to have a conversation about what those programs look like. We're inviting any and all (including the CD Team (Christian Development Team) to meet in the sanctuary on **Sunday, July 18 at 10:30 a.m.** so we can make some timely plans.

State Fair Volunteers: Thank you to those who have signed up to help out at the WDM UMC food booth at the Iowa State Fair. Now that you have had time to check your calendars, be sure to call/email the office to schedule your time. Here are the shifts available:

Thursday, August 19: 1:45-9:30 p.m. (2)

5:30-9:30 p.m. (3)

West Des Moines Human Services Need of the Month: Shampoo and Conditioner. 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.

Church Work Day Saturday, July 24 9-11:00 a.m. Come lend a hand at our monthly work day. We will have a variety of projects inside and out: picking up the yard of trash and sticks, cleaning up debris from the parking lot, taking down the Christmas lights outside the office and other projects.