**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

**Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**

**February 19, 2023**



*“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is single, your whole body will be full of light;"*

*(Matthew 6:22)*

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**February 19, 2023**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (*spoken responsively*)

L: The LORD is king

**P: Let the peoples tremble**

L: He sits enthroned upon the cherubim

**P: Let the earth quake!**

L: The LORD is great in Zion

**P: God is exalted over all the peoples**

L: Let the people praise your great and awesome name

**P: Holy is he! Mighty King, lover of justice**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “Great is the Lord” #69

**Great is the Lord**

**He is holy and just**

**By His power we trust**

**In His love**

**Great is the Lord**

**He is faithful and true**

**By His mercy He proves**

**He is love**

**Great is the Lord**

**And worthy of glory**

**Great is the Lord**

**And worthy of praise**

**Great is the Lord**

**Now lift up your voice**

**Now lift up your voice**

**Great is the Lord**

**Great is the Lord**

**Great is the Lord,**

**He is holy and just**

**By His power we trust**

**In His love**

**Great is the Lord**

**He is faithful, and true**

**By His mercy He proves**

**He is love**

**Great is the Lord**

**And worthy of glory**

**Great is the Lord**

**And worthy of praise**

**Great is the Lord**

**Now lift up your voice**

**Now lift up your voice**

**Great is the Lord**

**Great is the Lord**

**Great are you Lord**

**And worthy of glory**

**Great are you Lord**

**And worthy of praise**

**Great are you Lord**

**I lift up my voice**

**I lift up my voice**

**Great are you Lord**

**Great are you Lord**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: O Lord, who has taught us that all our doings without charity are of no worth, send thy Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity. Instill in us the very love that is the bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this wisdom to us as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples…

**P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father​**

**And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.​**

**As it was in the beginning​**

**Is now and ever shall be.​**

**World without end. ​**

**Amen. Amen.​**

**Congregational Reading:**

**P:** **O Holy Spirit, divine Spirit of light and love, I consecrate to you my understanding, my heart, my will, my whole being for time and for eternity. May my understanding always be submissive to your heavenly inspirations and to the teachings of the church, of which you are the infallible guide. May my heart ever be inflamed with love of God and of my neighbor. May my will always conform to the divine will, and may my whole life be a faithful imitation of the life and virtues of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to whom be honor and glory forever. Amen.**

**Hymn of Affirmation:** “Fairest Lord Jesus” #152 (vv.1-4)

**Fairest Lord Jesus  
Ruler of all nature  
O thou of God and man the Son  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor  
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown**

**Fair are the meadows  
Fairer still the woodlands  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer   
Who makes the woeful heart to sing**

**Fair is the sunshine   
Fairer still the moonlight   
And all the twinkling starry host   
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer   
Than all the angels heaven can boast**

**Beautiful Savior   
Lord of all the nations   
Son of God and Son of Man   
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration   
Now and forevermore be thine**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Gospel Lesson**: Matthew 6:19-24

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and worm consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor worm consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

“No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

**Sermon**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Hymn of Response:** “His Name is Wonderful” #149 (vv.1-2)

**His Name is Wonderful, His Name is Wonderful**

**His Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord**

**He’s the Great Shepherd, The Rock of all Ages**

**Almighty God is He**

**Bow down before Him, Love and adore Him**

**His Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord**

**He is the mighty King, Master of everything**

**His Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord**

**He’s the Great Shepherd, The Rock of all Ages**

**Almighty God is He**

**Bow down before Him, Love and adore Him**

**His Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord**

**Invitation of Offering**

L:We love because the love of God flows through us. We give, because the Lord has given to us. We endure, because the hope of God is in us. Give what is perishable and receive what is imperishable, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn**: “Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart #298 (vv.1-4)

**Spirit of God, descend upon my heart**

**Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move**

**Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art**

**And make me love Thee as I ought to love**

**Hast Thou not bid us love Thee God and King**

**All, all Thine own soul, heart, and strength, and mind**

**I see Thy cross there teach my heart to cling**

**O let me seek Thee, and O let me find**

**Teach me to feel that Thou are always nigh**

**Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear**

**To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh**

**Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer**

**Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love**

**One holy passion filling all my frame**

**The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove**

**My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame**

**\*Benediction**

L: The love of God be in your heart, the grace of God be in your words, the compassion of God be in your hands, and the joy of God be in your soul. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.