**Saginaw First Free Methodist Church**

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 18, 2021**



*“And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.”*

*(Mark 6:56)*

Minister: Rev. Jason Evans

First Free Methodist Church

2625 N. Center Rd.

Saginaw, Michigan 48603

Phone: (989) 799-2930

Email: saginawfmc@gmail.com

[www.saginawfirstfmc.org](http://www.saginawfirstfmc.org)

**Proper 11 (16)**

**July 18, 2021**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

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

L: Wickedness has driven the sheep from God’s fold

**P: But God will bring them back and they shall be restored**

L: Then the days will come, says the LORD

**P: When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch**

L: They shall reign as king and deal wisely

**P: They shall execute justice and righteousness in the land**

L: In those days we will be saved will live in safety

**P: The LORD will be known as our righteousness**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “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**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: God of compassion, welcome us into your joyful being where you know and are known in each of us. Be glorified in all sustenance, in every redemption, that we may manifest your unity. In the diverse ministries you entrust to us, may we truly reflect your triune majesty in the faith that acts, in the hope that does not disappoint, and in the love that endures, 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**

**Old Testament Scripture Lesson:** 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.”

Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.

And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

**Prayer of Confession**

L: Reconciliation means putting away our hostility. Reaching out to and loving those scattered is our mission. May our service be to Christ so our spirits may grow calm, our vision be clear, and our purpose be unified…

**P:** **Keep me, O Lord, attentive at prayer, temperate in food and drink, diligent in my work, firm in my good intentions. Put me on guard against my human weaknesses. Let me cherish your love for me, keep your law, and be satisfied in your salvation. Teach me to realize that this world is passing, that my true future is in the happiness of heaven, that life on earth is short, and life to come eternal. Help me to prepare for death with a proper fear of judgment, but a greater trust in your goodness. Lead me safely through death to the endless joy of heaven. Amen.**

**Affirmation of Faith:** Apostle’s Creed

**P: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried. He descended into hades, the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Church universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn of Affirmation:** “Grace Greater than Our Sin” #84 (vv.1-2,4)

**Marvelous grace of our loving Lord**

**Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt**

**Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured**

**There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that will pardon and cleanse within**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that is greater than all our sin**

**Sin and despair like the sea waves cold**

**Threaten the soul with infinite loss**

**Grace that is greater, yes grace untold**

**Points to the refuge, the mighty cross**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that will pardon and cleanse within**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that is greater than all our sin**

**Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace**

**Freely bestowed on all who believe**

**You that are longing to see his face**

**Will you this moment his grace receive?**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that will pardon and cleanse within**

**Grace, grace, God's grace**

**Grace that is greater than all our sin**

**Second Scripture Lesson****:** Ephesians 2:11-22

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

**Passing of the Peace**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Gospel Lesson**: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.”

For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was.

And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

**Sermon**

**Prayer of Response**

**Hymn of Response:** “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” #578 (vv.1-4)

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us**

**Much we need Thy tender care**

**In Thy pleasant pastures feed us**

**For our use Thy folds prepare**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Thou hast bought us, Thine we are**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Thou hast bought us, Thine we are**

**We are Thine, do Thou befriend us**

**Be the guardian of our way**

**Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us**

**Seek us when we go astray**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Hear, O hear us when we pray**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Hear, O hear us when we pray**

**Thou hast promised to receive us**

**Poor and sinful though we be**

**Thou hast mercy to relieve us**

**Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Early let us turn to Thee**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Early let us turn to Thee**

**Early let us seek Thy favor**

**Early let us do Thy will**

**Blessed Lord and only Savior**

**With Thy love our beings fill**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Thou hast loved us, love us still**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus**

**Thou hast loved us, love us still**

**Invitation of Offering**

L:Our Lord healed the sick, both physically and spiritually. Compassion for the neglected and needy is God’s mission. Give, for it is our mission, 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.**

**\*Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn**: “The Solid Rock” #436 (vv.1,3-4)

**My hope is built on nothing less**

**Than Jesus blood and righteousness**

**I dare not trust the sweetest frame**

**But wholly lean on Jesus’ name**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**His oath, His covenant, His blood**

**Support me in the whelming flood**

**When all around my soul gives way**

**He then is all my hope and stay**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**When he shall come with trumpet sound**

**O may I then in Him be found**

**Dressed in His righteousness alone**

**Faultless to stand before the throne**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**All other ground is sinking sand**

**\*Benediction**

L: Everywhere God’s word is sown; it does not come back void. Speak everywhere, that the Gospel may be heard and glorified. Gather those who are scattered, as you go in peace to love and serve. Amen.