**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 24, 2022**



*“For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”*

*(Luke 11:10)*

Minister: Bill Erickson

First Free Methodist Church

2625 N. Center Rd.

Saginaw, Michigan 48603

Phone: (989) 799-2930

Email: saginawfmc@gmail.com

www.saginawfirstfmc.org

**PROPER 12 (17)**

**July 24, 2022**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

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

L: Give thanks to the Lord

**P: For great is the glory of the LORD**

L: We will sing of the ways of God

**P: We give thanks for your steadfast love and your faithfulness**

L: The LORD will give what is good

**P: Restore us again, O God of our salvation**

L: Salvation is at hand for those who fear him

**P: Let me hear what the LORD God will speak**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “God of Grace and God of Glory” #720 (vv.1-4)

**God of grace and God of glory**

**On Thy people pour Thy power**

**Crown Thine ancient church's story**

**Bring her bud to glorious flower**

**Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage**

**For the facing of this hour**

**For the facing of this hour**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us**

**Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!**

**Fears and doubts too long have bound us**

**Free our hearts to work and praise**

**Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage**

**For the living of these days**

**For the living of these days**

**Heal Thy people's warring madness**

**Bend our pride to Thy control**

**Shame our wanton, selfish gladness**

**Rich in things and poor in soul**

**Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage**

**Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal**

**Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal**

**Set our feet on lofty places**

**Gird our lives that they may be**

**Armoured with all Christlike graces**

**In the fight to set men free**

**Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage**

**That we fail not man nor Thee**

**That we fail not man nor Thee**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: O God, protector of all that trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply on us your mercy, that, through being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things that are temporal, so we shall never lose the things that are eternal. Fill each heart with love for you and neighbor, that we may minister, full of your grace and mercy, 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.​**

**First Scripture Lesson:** Hosea 1:2-10

When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.”

So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the LORD said to him, “Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”

She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, “Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.”

When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said, “Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.”

**Prayer of Confession**

L: Lord, by your grace, enlighten our understanding, strengthen our will, purify our hearts, and make us holy...

**P:** **O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you. I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am lonely, but you do not leave me. I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help. I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me. Restore me to liberty, and enable me so to live now that I may answer before you and before me. Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. 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:** “Praise Ye the Triune God” #13 (vv.1-3)

**Praise ye the Father for His loving kindness**

**Tenderly cares He for His erring children**

**Praise Him ye angels**

**Praise Him in heaven**

**Praise ye Jehovah**

**Praise ye the Savior great is His compassion**

**Graciously cares he for His chosen people**

**Young men and maidens**

**Ye old men and children**

**Praise ye the Savior**

**Praise ye the Spirit, Comforter of Israel**

**Sent of the Father and of the Son to bless us**

**Praise ye the Father**

**And Son and Holy Spirit**

**Praise ye the Triune God**

**Second Scripture Lesson:** Colossians 2:6-15

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

**Children’s Sermon**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”

He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’

And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’

I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

**Sermon**

**Prayer of Response**

**Hymn of Response****:** “Lead on O King Eternal” #641 (vv.1-3)

**Lead on, O King Eternal the day of march is come**

**Hence-forth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home**

**Thro’ days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong**

**And now, O King Eternal, we lift our battle song**

**Lead on, O King Eternal, till sin’s fierce war shall cease**

**And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace**

**For not with swords’ loud clashing nor roll of stirring drums**

**With deeds of love and mercy the heav’nly kingdom comes**

**Lead on, O King Eternal we follow not with fears**

**For gladness breaks like morning wher-e’er Thy face appears**

**Thy cross is lifted o’er us we journey in its light**

**Thy crown awaits the conquest lead on, O God of might**

**Invitation of Offering**

L:Each of you must give as you have made up your mind. Give as the Lord has given you. ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’ Give joyfully, 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**

Bahamas:

The Grace and Peace church in Nassau is led by Pastor Leanard Roberts, an ordained FM elder. The Southeast region gives oversight of this church

Pray for wisdom in relaunching the church and engaging the community, and for the emotional climate of the people after COVID. Also pray for leaders to be identified and trained along with their ministry to increasing new disciples, groups and leaders. Also pray for healthy relationships with churches in the Southeast Conference despite the cultural and geographic distances.

**\*Closing Hymn**: “Revive Us Again” #719 (vv.1-4)

**We praise Thee, O God!**

**For the Son of Thy love**

**For Jesus Who died**

**And is now gone above**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Hallelujah! Amen**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Revive us again**

**We praise Thee, O God!**

**For Thy Spirit of Light**

**Who has shown us our Savior**

**And scattered our night**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Hallelujah! Amen**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Revive us again**

**All glory and praise**

**To the Lamb that was slain**

**Who has taken our sins**

**And has cleansed every stain**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Hallelujah! Amen**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Revive us again**

**Revive us again**

**Fill each heart with Thy love**

**May each soul be rekindled**

**With fire from above**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Hallelujah! Amen**

**Hallelujah! Thine the glory**

**Revive us again**

**\*Benediction**

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace. Take this blessing, as you go in peace to love and serve. Amen.