**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 2023



*“’Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.’”*

*(Matthew 10:40)*

Guest Speaker: Rev. Becca

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Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

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

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul

**P: O my God, in you I trust**

L: Lead me in your truth, and teach me

**P: Make me to know your ways**

L: For you are the God of my salvation

**P: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD**

L: Good and upright is the LORD

**P: He leads the humble in what is right**

**\*Opening Song:** “God of Our Fathers” #758 (vv.1-4)

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand**

**Leads forth in beauty all the starry band**

**Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies**

**Our grateful songs before thy throne arise**

**Thy love divine hath led us in the past**

**In this free land by thee our lot is cast**

**Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay**

**Thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way**

**From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence**

**Be thy strong arm our ever sure defense**

**Thy true religion in our hearts increase**

**Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace**

**Refresh thy people on their toilsome way**

**Lead us from night to never-ending day**

**Fill all our lives with love and grace divine**

**And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: Lord, we come before you in Jesus name. We come in the name of the one who was anointed to preach good news to the poor, the one sent to proclaim release of the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and to set at liberty those who are oppressed. Release us Lord from our captivity to fear, give us sight to see ourselves and all your people as your beloved, grant us courage to own our part in the ways of oppression, and make us truly free to proclaim the year of your favor in every aspect of our lives, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught is 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.​**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Congregational Song:** “Oceans”

**You call me out upon the waters**

**The great unknown where feet may fail**

**And there I find You in the mystery**

**In oceans deep**

**My faith will stand**

**And I will call upon Your name**

**And keep my eyes above the waves**

**When oceans rise**

**My soul will rest in Your embrace**

**For I am Yours and You are mine**

**Your grace abounds in deepest waters**

**Your sovereign hand**

**Will be my guide**

**Where feet may fail**

**And fear surrounds me**

**You've never failed**

**And You won't start now**

**So I will call upon Your name**

**And keep my eyes above the waves**

**When oceans rise**

**My soul will rest in Your embrace**

**Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders**

**Let me walk upon the waters**

**Wherever You would call me**

**Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander**

**And my faith will be made stronger**

**In the presence of my Saviour**

**Oh, Jesus, You're my God!**

**I will call upon Your name**

**Keep my eyes above the waves**

**My soul will rest in Your embrace**

**I am Yours and You are mine**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Gospel Lesson**: Matthew 10:40-42

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Becca

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Hymn of Response:** “Jesus Calls Us” #541 (vv.1-4)

**Jesus calls us o'er the tumult**

**Of our life's wild, restless sea**

**Day by day his sweet voice soundeth**

**Saying Christian, follow me**

**Jesus calls us from the worship**

**Of the vain world’s golden store**

**From each idol that would keep us**

**Saying Christian love me more**

**In our joys and in our sorrows**

**Days of toil and hours of ease**

**Still he calls in cares and pleasures**

**Christian love Me more than these**

**Jesus calls us by thy mercies**

**Savior, may we hear thy call**

**Give our hearts to thine obedience**

**Serve and love thee best of all**

**Invitation of Offering**

L: Teach us Lord how to come together, united in purpose and in humility, that we may seek your justice. May we be like the rain that falls on the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth for your good purposes, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** “America the Beautiful” #759 (vv.1-2,4)

**Oh beautiful, for spacious skies**

**For amber waves of grain**

**For purple mountain majesties**

**Above the fruited plain**

**America, America**

**God shed his grace on thee**

**And crowned thy good, in brotherhood**

**From sea to shining sea**

**Oh, beautiful for pilgrim feet**

**Whose stern, impassioned stress**

**A thoroughfare of freedom beat**

**Across the wilderness!**

**America! America!**

**God mend thine ev’ry flaw**

**Confirm thy soul in self-control**

**Thy liberty in law**

**Oh, beautiful for patriot dream**

**That sees beyond the years**

**Thine alabaster cities gleam**

**Undimmed by human tears!**

**America! America!**

**God shed his grace on thee,**

**And crown thy good with brotherhood**

**From sea to shining sea**

**\*Benediction**

L: Give us a fresh vision of your kingdom that would compel us to move beyond our self-sufficiency and pride to a vulnerable, trusting dependence on you and on each other, that we may be part of that great multitude from every tribe and people and language gathered before your throne. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.