

Order of Worship

January 31, 2016

11:00 a.m. Generations Service

■ **May We Pray with You?** Prayer Partners are available after the service to encourage and pray with you. They will be waiting at the front pew.

■ **Prayers for Healing and Comfort**
◇ Dorothy Barlow

WE COME TOGETHER AS THE FAMILY OF CHRIST

Welcome & Greeting

Rev. Michael Burkett

*Opening Chorus

Curt Timmons

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven (vs.1) UMH 66

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

*We Proclaim Our Mission

Max Kelton

Leader: Who are we?

All: People of God, learning to follow Jesus, inviting others to join the journey.

*Opening Unison Prayer

God Almighty, through your grace, you give us the space and freedom to grow in our relationship with you from right where we are. Thank you for your faithfulness and love. Continue to reach out to us so that we may become fully devoted followers of you. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

We, Thy People, Praise Thee

UMH 173

(Congregation seated)

WE LISTEN FOR AND RECEIVE GOD'S WORD TO US

Scripture Reading

Mark 4:2-9, 26-29

He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ³"Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth

grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”⁹And he said, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

²⁶He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Good Shepherd of My Soul -arr. Lloyd Larson

Good shepherd of my soul, come dwell within me; take all I am and mold Your likeness in me. Before the cross of Christ, this is my sacrifice: a life laid down and ready to follow.

The troubled find their peace in true surrender; the prisoners their release from chains of anger. In springs of living grace, I find a resting place to rise refreshed, determined to follow.

I'll walk this narrow road with Christ before me, where thorns and thistles grow and cords ensnare me. Though doubted and denied, He never leaves my side, but lifts my head and calls me to follow.

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever.

And when my days are gone, my strength is failing; He'll carry me along through death's unveiling. Earth's struggles overcome, heaven's journey just begun, to search Christ's depths and ever to follow.

Good shepherd of my soul, come dwell within me.

(The choir may disperse as needed)

Sermon Series Prayer

God, thank you for the gift of your Son and Mark's gospel witness to his life. Help us to hear that witness as Good News for our lives today. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

The Message

Rev. Michael Burkett

He Taught Them in Parables

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS WITH JOY

*Hymn

Give to the Wind Thy Fears

UMH 129

A Time for Children

Rev. Dr. Charlotte Teel

Our Life Together

Please register your attendance in the registration card provided and place it in the offering plate.

Pastoral Prayer / 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Dedication of Tithes and Offering

Offertory

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder

Logan Walker

*Doxology

UMH 95

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.

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396

*Responsive Benediction

Leader: The blessing of the one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you this day and forever.

People: Amen.

*Benediction Chorus

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven (vs. 4)
Angels in the heights, adoring, you behold God face to face;
Saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

UMH 66

*Postlude

**=We invite you to please stand, as you are able.*