

Worship Service for July 3, 2022

Welcome and Announcements ~ Craig Keith

Welcome to our guest organist, Dave Cobb and his wife Mary.



Monday ~ Happy Fourth of July!

You are invited to gather in the grass by the bus parking lot for MEMS starting at 8 pm to share snacks and watch the fireworks that will begin after it gets dark.

Tuesday ~ Deacon Meeting at the church at 4:30 pm.

Wednesday ~ Seeking God Together Meeting at 11 am via zoom.

Thursday ~ Mission Meeting at the church at 3 pm.

Saturday ~ Our church picnic will be at the Dana Thompson Rec. Park pavilion 1 from noon to 3 pm. Annie Crumb has sent out a Sign up Genius invitation so you can let people know what you plan to bring.

Next Sunday we will have a Mission Moment by Alyssa Ward, who serves in campus ministry in Spain.

Happy Anniversary to Jim and Bonnie Lincoln today,
and Happy Anniversary to Dottie and Bryan on Tuesday!

Happy Birthday to Brittany Dombroski on Wednesday and
Happy Birthday to Sara Beavin on Thursday!

Thank you to Lois Squires for the flowers
in loving memory of Angie Coolidge
and to Bruce Fielding for flowers in loving memory
of his mother, Jean Fielding.

Word of Preparation ~ Craig Keith

Prelude ~ Dave Cobb will play “Abide with Me”
as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Call to Worship ~ “A Prayer for the Nation”

(Please join in reading the bold lines.)

Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage.

**Make us always remember your generosity
and constantly do your will.**

Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education,
and an honorable way of life.

**Save us from violence, discord, and confusion;
from pride and arrogance and from every evil course of action.**
Make us who came from many nations with many different languages
a united people.

**Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted
with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom,
that there might be justice and peace in our land.**
When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful;
and in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail.
We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song ~ “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (#720, blue hymnal)

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed full grace on thee
And crown thy good with servanthood from sea to shining sea
O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine
O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears
America! America! God mend thine every flaw
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law*

Words ~ Katherine Lee Bates, 1893, Music ~ Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

Praying Together ~

Space for prayer requests

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 debts as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Song ~ “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” (#721, blue hymnal)

*My country, ‘tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims’ pride
From every mountainside let freedom ring
My native country, thee, land of the noble free thy name I love
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills
My heart with rapture thrills like that above
Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
sweet freedom’s song
Let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong
Our fathers’ God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing
Long may our land be bright with freedom’s holy light
Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King*

Words ~ Samuel Francis Smith, 1831 Music ~ *Thesaurus Musicus*, 1744

Introducing the Sermon ~ Rev. Dr. Theresa Taylor

Scripture Reading ~ Judges 4 (NLT) read by Craig Keith

- ¹ After Ehud’s death, the Israelites again did evil in the Lord’s sight.
² So the Lord turned them over to King Jabin of Hazor, a Canaanite king.
The commander of his army was Sisera,
who lived in Harosheth-haggoyim.
³ Sisera, who had 900 iron chariots, ruthlessly oppressed the Israelites
for twenty years. Then the people of Israel cried out to the Lord for help.
⁴ Deborah, the wife of Lappidoth, was a prophet
who was judging Israel at that time.
⁵ She would sit under the Palm of Deborah,
between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim,
and the Israelites would go to her for judgment.
⁶ One day she sent for Barak son of Abinoam,
who lived in Kedesh in the land of Naphtali.
She said to him, “This is what the Lord,
the God of Israel, commands you: Call out 10,000 warriors
from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun at Mount Tabor.
⁷ And I will call out Sisera, commander of Jabin’s army,
along with his chariots and warriors, to the Kishon River.
There I will give you victory over him.”
⁸ Barak told her, “I will go, but only if you go with me.”
⁹ “Very well,” she replied, “I will go with you.
But you will receive no honor in this venture,
for the Lord’s victory over Sisera will be at the hands of a woman.”
So Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh.
¹⁰ At Kedesh, Barak called together the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali,
and 10,000 warriors went up with him.
Deborah also went with him.
¹¹ Now Heber the Kenite, a descendant of Moses’ brother-in-law Hobab,
had moved away from the other members of his tribe
and pitched his tent by the oak of Zaanannim near Kedesh.
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¹² When Sisera was told that Barak son of Abinoam
had gone up to Mount Tabor,
¹³ he called for all 900 of his iron chariots and all of his warriors,
and they marched from Harosheth-haggoyim to the Kishon River.
¹⁴ Then Deborah said to Barak, “Get ready! This is the day the Lord will
give you victory over Sisera, for the Lord is marching ahead of you.”
So Barak led his 10,000 warriors
down the slopes of Mount Tabor into battle.
¹⁵ When Barak attacked,
the Lord threw Sisera and all his chariots and warriors into a panic.
Sisera leaped down from his chariot and escaped on foot.
¹⁶ Then Barak chased the chariots and the enemy army
all the way to Harosheth-haggoyim, killing all of Sisera’s warriors.
Not a single one was left alive.
¹⁷ Meanwhile, Sisera ran to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite,
because Heber’s family was on friendly terms with King Jabin of Hazor.
¹⁸ Jael went out to meet Sisera and said to him,
“Come into my tent, sir. Come in. Don’t be afraid.”
So he went into her tent, and she covered him with a blanket.
¹⁹ “Please give me some water,” he said. “I’m thirsty.”
So she gave him some milk from a leather bag and covered him again.
²⁰ “Stand at the door of the tent,” he told her.
“If anybody comes and asks you if there is anyone here, say no.”
²¹ But when Sisera fell asleep from exhaustion,
Jael quietly crept up to him with a hammer and tent peg in her hand.
Then she drove the tent peg through his temple and into the ground,
and so he died.
²² When Barak came looking for Sisera, Jael went out to meet him.
She said, “Come, and I will show you the man you are looking for.”
So he followed her into the tent and found Sisera lying there dead,
with the tent peg through his temple.
²³ So on that day Israel saw God defeat Jabin, the Canaanite king.
²⁴ And from that time on Israel became stronger and stronger
against King Jabin until they finally destroyed him.

Sermon ~ “The Courage and Leadership of Deborah”

~ Rev. Dr. Theresa Taylor

Song ~ “*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*” (#85, blue hymnal)

*Eternal Father strong to save whose arm has bound the restless wave
Who bid the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O Savior whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard
Who walked upon the foaming deep and calm amid its rage didst sleep
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O sacred Spirit who did brood upon the waters dark and rude
And bid their angry tumult cease and give for fierce confusion peace
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour
From rock and tempest fire and foe, protect them whereso'er they go
Thus evermore shall rise to thee, glad praise from air and land and sea*

Words ~ William Whiting, 1860, Music ~ John B. Dykes, 1861

Communion ~ Everyone is welcome to partake of the bread and juice
in remembrance of Christ’s body and blood given for our salvation.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
That the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of
bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,
“*This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*”

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying,
“*This cup is the new covenant in my blood.*”

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the
Lord’s death until he comes.

~ 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Benediction ~ Rev. Dr. Theresa Taylor

Postlude ~ Dave Cobb will play his own arrangement of
“*Battle Hymn of the Republic*” and “*God Bless America.*”