**Sunday, September 10, 2023**

[**www.gilbertcommunityumc.org**](http://www.gilbertcommunityumc.org)

**“Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.”**

\*Please stand if able…

PRELUDE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come out of the darkness of despair into the brightness of God’s transforming love.

**People: We praise God for God’s presence with us!**

Leader: Prepare your hearts and spirits to receive God’s mercy and healing.

**People: We thank God for God’s mercy toward us.**

Leader: Come, let us praise and worship God who is always with us.

**People: Thanks be to God at all times and in all places.**

**ALL: AMEN**

**\*OPENING HYMN:** *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

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**OPENING PRAYER**

**Gracious God, we come this day seeking courage and hope for the future. Our world is in such peril.**

**LITURGIST SCHEDULE**

September 10th Sue Malevich

September 17th Warren Ross

September 24th Don Peterson

**USHER LIST** (We don’t need ushers at this time)

September 10th Deborah Ross-Jagunich

September 17th Don and Terri Peterson

September 24th Tom and Deanna Hafdahl

**YARD WORK** (week runs Monday-Sunday)

September 4th-10th Malevich

September 11th-17th Jagunich

September 18th-24th John and Norma

Scripture Readings for next week (September 17th)

Psalm 139 or 148 (UMH 854)

Job 38:1-11

Romans 3:27-31

If you need to get a hold of Pastor MaryLou - call her a

me: 749-2901

Cell: (218) 750-2154

Email: surfingsixpack@hotmail.com

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Coffee An’ will be held today… DeEtta is serving.

A special donation for Maui will be taken until September 10th. Please mark your check or envelope Hawaii so it will be sent to the correct place.

Pasty sale is coming up quick… There are sign-up sheets in the back to make your orders.

Also we need your time and talent to help make these pasties, so plan on spending time at the Community Center on October 17th, 18th and 19th.

**Heal these wounds and quiet the words of war. Help us to be those who bring peace in our families and communities. Banish the darkness of doubt and fear; anoint us with your light and love that we may spread the good news of your mercy to everyone. In Jesus’ name, we pray.**

**AMEN**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Forgiving and loving God, our hearts are filled today with pain and concern for the future of humankind. Words of anger assail our airways; we cannot escape from the threats being thrown about. In our fear, we cry “Where are you, O Lord?” We wander around in the darkness of the spirit, seeking light and hope. Forgive us when we forget that you are always with us, through times of peace and times of war. Heal our souls. Help us to reach out to others with the assurances of your love and presence, for we ask this in Jesus’ name.**

**AMEN**

**PSALM:** Psalm 148:1-14 (responsive reading UMH 861-862)

**\*HYMN:** *Just As I Am*  357

CHILDREN’S TIME

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Time of Silent Prayers…**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 and ever.**

**AMEN**

**\*HYMN:** *Kum Ba Yah*  494

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Exodus 12:1-14

**EPISTLE LESSON:** Romans 13:8-14

**GOSPEL LESSON:** Matthew 18:15-20

**MESSAGE Pastor MaryLou**

**\*HYMN:** *They’ll Know We Are Christians*  FWS 2223

**RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS/ MUSIC**

**\*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**

Please leave your offering in the plate in the back of the sanctuary…

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**God of love and compassion, we ask you to dedicate the tithes and offerings we bring to worship. We do this in the hope that you will do more with them than we could ever do on our own to heal the brokenness and division in our world. Remind us that the work of reconciliation does not get removed from our list because we put something in the offering and that mission field is within our arms’ reach. This we pray in the redeemer’s holy name, Jesus the Christ.**

**AMEN**

BENEDICTION

\***HYMN:** *More Like You* Insert

POSTLUDE