

**Banning United Methodist Church**  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 9, 2023

**MEDITATIVE THOUGHT**

*Ever aware of my flaws and failures, as I prepare for worship I pray with St. Paul, "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:25, NIV).*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS**

**WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Come on in and find some rest!

**P: We need that rest, for we are weary!**

L: Come on in and discover peace!

**P: We need peace, for our spirits are weighed down by troubles.**

L: You have come to the right place! Our Lord is here, waiting for you.

**P: Thanks be to God, who brings us rest and peace. AMEN.**

**†OPENING HYMN**

"Christ for the World We Sing" VS. 1, 3 & 4

UMH #568

**OPENING PRAYER**

**We gather together this morning, O Lord, eager to feel Your healing touch for our wounded spirits and weary souls. Flood our lives with Your peace. Shine Your light of joy in our souls this day, for we pray in Christ's Name. AMEN.**

**PSALM READING**

Psalm 145:8-14 NRSV

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. <sup>9</sup>The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. <sup>10</sup>All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you. <sup>11</sup>They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, <sup>12</sup>to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. <sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. <sup>14</sup>The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

**EPISTLE READING**

Romans 7:15-25 NRSV

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMONIC HYMN**

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought” vs. 1 & 3

UMH #128

**SERMON**

“Who do you want to avoid?”

Pastor Doug

**PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR and PEOPLE**

Children in Prayer

(After all slides: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

**THE 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.**

**GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)**

**OFFERTORY**

**†DOXOLOGY**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**As you have received each one of us, O Lord, also receive these gifts that we offer to You that Your love may be made known through ministries of peace, hope, and justice. AMEN.**

**†CLOSING HYMN**

“Jesus Shall Reign” vs. 1, 3 & 5

UMH #157

**†BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**