

Banning United Methodist Church

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 11, 2023

GATHERING MUSIC

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

God's grace makes human faith possible. In this circle of grace and faith, miracles enter and bless our world.

PRELUDE

"Sweet Hour of Prayer" arr: Janet Vogt

WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS

WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

†CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come! Now is the time to worship!

P: Come! Now is the time to worship!

L: We gather today as people God calls to go and share the good news.

P: We gather as God's sent-out people.

L: We gather to listen and share God's work in our lives, our families, and our neighborhoods.

P: We proclaim the goodness of God's love together.

L: We gather to respond to God's grace as we continue on the path of discipleship.

P: We hear God's call and learn to say "yes" to God together.

L: We gather to again hear God's call to "Go!" as God commissions us to love God and neighbor in everything that we do.

P: We go knowing that as God's called, gathered, and sent-out people, we are not alone as we carry the weight of God's call into the world together. Amen.

†OPENING HYMN

"Take my Life and let It Be" vs. 1 & 3

UMH #399

OPENING PRAYER

Forgive us for all the times we say no, or nothing at all, to Your call. We confess that we value the false certainty of our own path over the uncertainty of journeying with You and one another on the path of discipleship.

Forgive us for all the ways we choose what we think we know over joining you in the holy unknown. We confess that we value the calls of some over others, putting the paths of some up on pedestals while not recognizing the many who answer Your call as quiet, behind-the-scenes disciples. Forgive us, God, and free us to joyfully bear the weight of Your call on our lives as members together of the Body of Christ, redeemed and united by Your love. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 12:1-9 NRSV

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 4:13-25 NRSV

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness."
²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

All: Thanks be to God.**SERMON HYMN**

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" vs. 1 & 4

UMH #514

SERMON

"What Would You Take?"

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**

"If You Will Trust in God to Guide You" by: Neumark arr: Boertje

†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

God of eternity and God of the next moment: we offer our gifts today having heard Your call through Jesus to follow. Remind us again this day that being a follower doesn't end at the offering plate. There is a weight to this call – one that demands we not only say "yes" to following but that we also say "no" to thousands of things that will lead us away from the discipleship path. Guide us that we might not wander off that road. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

†CLOSING HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" vs. 1, 3 & 5

UMH #139

†BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

"Rock of Ages" by: Thomas Hastings arr: Donna J. Krieger