

Banning United Methodist Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 4, 2024

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP	Cathy Mauge
WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS	Dan Mabey
ANNOUNCEMENTS August Birthdays & Anniversaries	Dan Mabey
PASSING OF THE PEACE	Pastor Janice

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES	Cathy Mauge
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†**CALL TO WORSHIP** Dan Mabey
L: Let love be genuine and live in harmony; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good. Be humble and never conceited.
P: Love is stronger than death and jealousy is cruel as the grave. Floods cannot drown love, and wealth cannot buy it.
L: Put love above all else; let Christ's peace rule your hearts. Always be forgiving, as Christ has forgiven you.
P: Love rejoices in the right; it bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things, for love is faithful and endless. Amen.

†**OPENING HYMN** "Standing on the Promises" UMH #374

†**OPENING PRAYER** Dan Mabey
Lord, we confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are. Holy Spirit, speak to us today. Help us to listen to Your word of forgiveness, for we are very deaf. Come, fill this worship service with Your love and free us from sin. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Dan Mabey
Galatians 5:13-15 NIV
Life by the Spirit

¹³You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

GOSPEL LESSON Pastor Janice
Matthew 5:43-48 NIV
Love for Enemies

⁴³"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION	"In the Garden"	UMH #314
SERMON	"Loving the Unlovable"	Rev. Janice Mabey
PRAYERS		Pastor Janice
Children in Prayer (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)		
Sharing Our Joys and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer		
PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS		Dan Mabey
OFFERTORY		Cathy Mauge
† 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		Dan Mabey
Heavenly Father, God of abundance, our hearts are full of gratitude for those who give willingly. Use these gifts to further Your work. Let these acts of generosity inspire others to follow these examples and experience the joy of cheerful giving. Amen.		
A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II		UMH #12
COMMUNION HYMNS	"One Bread, One Body" (all 3 verses) "Fill My Cup, Lord"	UMH #620 UMH #641
† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA		UMH #883
We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.		
SENDING FORTH		
† CLOSING HYMN	"When We All Get to Heaven"	UMH #701
DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
† BENEDICTION		Pastor Janice
CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD		
POSTLUDE		