

MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 17, 2023

10:30 am

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost in the Season of Kingdomtide

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Welcome

Welcome to Mountain View United Methodist Church!

We are a *BIG PICTURE* inclusive congregation of thinking ... and questioning people.

Big picture inclusiveness means we do not exclude any one class or caste of people, but advocate love and welcoming for all of God's family.

It doesn't matter where you are in your spiritual and life journey. You are welcome to join us.

Our mission is to love unconditionally ... grow spiritually ... and serve faithfully through Christ.

Come ... love ... grow ... and serve with us!

TO PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Prelude: "Wonderful Peace" Cheryl Conklin and MaryEllen Zimmerman

Call to Worship: Beth Tinsley

Leader: God is with us!

People: We are not alone and abandoned!

Leader: Christ redeems us!

People: We are surrounded by Christ's love. We are forgiven.

Leader: The Holy Spirit breathes hope and peace into our lives.

People: We are made one in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit! We are empowered to build God's Kingdom of love and grace for all. Let us begin. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: "All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine" Hymnal # 166, verses 1 & 4

All praise to thee,
For thou, O King divine,
Didst yield the glory
That of right was thine,
That in our darkened hearts
Thy grace might shine:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Wherefore, by God's
Eternal purpose,
Though art high exalted
O'er all creatures now,
And given the name
To which all knees shall bow:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Followed by: "Freely, Freely" Hymnal # 389

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
And in Jesus' name I come to you,
To share his love as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received,
Freely, freely give. Go in my name,
Because you believe, others will know that I live.

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and in heaven in Jesus' name,
And in Jesus' name I come to you,
To share in power as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received,
Freely, freely give. Go in my name,
Because you believe, others will know that I live.

The Epistle: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you,**

Response: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" Hymnal # 431

Children are invited to come forward during this song to join our Children's time.

Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator,
Children all are we.
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me;
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

Children's Time

TO PRAY AND OFFER OURSELVES

Sharing of 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 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.

Passing of the Offering Plates

This month's special communion offering is Focus on the Forest.

If you would like to make an offering online, see our [virtual offertory basket](http://www.mt-viewumc.org) at www.mt-viewumc.org.

Offertory Music: "Who Is On The Lord's Side?" Cheryl Conklin and MaryEllen Zimmerman

***Congregational Response:** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymnal # 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

TO PROCLAIM OUR FAITH

Anthem: "Be Still" Chancel Choir, accompanied by Cheryl Conklin, directed by Cheresse Brower

The Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly

Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Message: "Forgiveness Is A Lifestyle"

AND GO OUT TO SERVE

***Song:** "God, How Can We Forgive" The Faith We Sing # 2169

God, how can we forgive
When bonds of love are torn?
How can we rise and start anew,
Our trust reborn?
When human loving fails
And every hope is gone,
Your love give strength beyond our own
To face the dawn.

When we have missed the mark,
And tears of anguish flow,
How can you still release our guilt,
The debt we owe?
The ocean depth of grace
Surpasses all our needs.
A priest who shares our human pain,
Christ intercedes.

Who dares to throw the stone
To damn another's sin,
When you, while knowing all our past,
Forgive again?
No more we play the judge,
For by your grace we live.
As you, O God, forgive our sin,
May we forgive.

Profession of Faith and Reception of New Members: Hymnal # 43

Pastor: Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

People: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** "Victory in Jesus" Cheryl Conklin and MaryEllen Zimmerman

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Health Concerns: Those dealing with ongoing health issues including cancer and memory loss, and those recovering from and awaiting surgery. Prayers for Jim Pletcher, Clarke Becker, Larry Hanahan, Mike Snipes, Riley-niece of Debbie Martin, Joan & Colin Rook, Pat Grubbs, Beth Tinsley, Rev. Ron Saunders, Angie-Debbie Martin's sister, Patti Metz, Dan Vogel, Ruth Hoffman, Dottie Marshall, Dan Vogel's father, Elise Tiedt, Betty-Hildred Davis' daughter, Sue Laughlin-good friend of Jo Lied, Carl Marquardt-father of Eric & Christy Marquardt, Colleen Wakeley, Rick Manka-partner to Lori Jones, Ginny George, Barb Smith, Joann & Gordon Leaf.

Please advise the church office of updates

Other Prayer Concerns: Family of Vickie Huffor at the passing of her father, Frank Optouplik, family of Jean Byers at her loss, Jo Lied's great grandson, Jeremiah. Those dealing with tragedy and sadness and the loss of innocent lives. **Please give a special prayer to those dealing with the loss of a loved one.**

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH!

Les and Debbie Dornon
c/o United Mission to Nepal
(Tansen Hospital)
PO Box 126
Kathmandu, NEPAL South Asia
lesdebbiedornon@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 17

8:45 am Contemporary Christian Roundtable

9:00 am Living Bible

10:30 am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am Church Services

11:30 am Safety Tip Sunday

Monday, September 18

4:00 pm Soul Reset

6:00 pm Fall of Rome

Tuesday, September 19

Wednesday, September 20

BULLETIN INFORMATION DUE

12:00 pm FREE LUNCH!

6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

10:00 am Women's Enrichment Ministry Group

11:30 am Adult Fellowship Potluck

6:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Friday, September 22

7:30 am Mountain View Men at Grandma's Kitchen

Saturday, September 23

Sunday, September 24

8:45 am Contemporary Christian Roundtable

9:00 am Living Bible

10:30 am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am Church Services

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE LUNCH! We have moved our Community Dinner Program to 12:00 noon! Our menu on *September 20* will chili con carne, cornbread, cole slaw, cake, coffee, tea, and kool aid in honor of the 1st family dinner served in 1979! Call the office at 719-687-3868 to reserve your place for lunch NOW!

Safety Tip Sunday—*September 17*—"Aging Mastery"

Bring a Non-Perishable on *September 17* to benefit Community Cupboard. The Community Cupboard sends their gratitude for our generosity.

FALL OF ROME—Did Christianity Destroy the Roman Empire? Edward Gibbon, in his classic *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* blames the loss of western Europe squarely on Christianity. In this four week class we will trace the events that comprise Rome's "fall" and examine Christianity's role. Taught by Michael Bryant on *Mondays, September 11—October 9, 6-7 pm*. In person in the Sanctuary and on zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84775886434>

SOUL RESET—Are you ready to say 'yes' to the journey toward wholeness? This is the second offering of the study based on the book *Soul Reset, Breakdown,*

Breakthrough and The Journey to Wholeness by Junius B. Dotson. This study offers a safe place where we can be real about depression, exhaustion, burnout and grief. In this group, we can express our feelings and experiences and find, grace, encouragement and authentic community. As we follow Pastor Dotson, we discover, as he did, that authenticity, vulnerability and spiritual practices are the path to wholeness. Be sure to purchase the Soul Reset book for this six-week Monday class. Taught by Clarke Becker on *Mondays, September 18—October 30, 4-5 pm* in the Sanctuary. IN PERSON ONLY.

Family Visitation for Cliff Prater—Cliff has been a member of MVUMC since 1983. He hasn't been able to attend in person in recent years. He passed away on 8/25/2023. You are welcome to stop by and visit Cliff's family from 2-4 pm on *Sunday, September 17th, 2023* at 57 Old Wagon Rd in Woodland Park, Colorado in memory of Cliff. Feel free to bring flowers or cards if you wish and share some kind words and fond memories with his family.

Adult Fellowship Potluck—has been cancelled. Any questions, please email Beth Tinsley at beth.tinsley719@gmail.com.

CPR/First Aid/AED Class - Rusty Merrill is holding a CPR/First Aid, AED Class postpone to *September 23, 9 am-3 pm*. Sign up sheet in the Narthex, Contact Rusty Merrill for additional information. merrillfarm73@gmail.com

SOCK IT TO ME! - In October the Missions Team will be putting a box in the Narthex to collect socks for Marion house and the Aspen Mine Center. Help fill it up!

Blessing of the Animals—bring your pet to worship on *October 8* to be blessed.

Free Blood Pressure Checks—the Congregational Care Team is offering free blood pressure checks in the Narthex before worship on the 2nd Sunday (*October 8*) of each month!

Marion House—On *October 14*, MVUMC will be volunteering at Marion House. If you are interested in participating, please contact Donna Richards, 719-244-2692.

Mid-year Giving Statements were not printed this year. If you would like to know your year-to-date giving, a statement for you at any time. Please contact Vickie Huffor (Financial Secretary) at 719-330-8801 or even better, email at vhuffor@msn.com.

INFORMATION

COMMUNION CHECKS—Make out to Mountain View UMC---note the mission charity...“September” Communion: Focus on the Forest. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS—Please call Jo Lied at 719-726-0668 to schedule a date for you to bring flowers to honor someone and then call Sandy Rucker (church secretary) at 719-687-3868 to place in the bulletin for the designated Sunday service. Please have flowers on the alter by 10:00 am that morning and remove by Wednesday of the following week.

RECYCLE PILL BOTTLES—Instead of throwing away your empty pill bottles, pull your label off, wash them in soap and water and put them in the Pill Bottle Box in the Narthex. They will be donated to Matthew 25: Ministries to help improve the health care in hospitals and clinics in developing countries.

We now have a **DONATE** button on our website: www.mtviewumc.org! Click on DONATE on the Home page. Scroll down and click on the blue button and away you go! Please note that there are costs involved with on-line donations. If you use a credit card, there is a 1.5% base Donorbox charge plus a 2.9%+\$0.30 credit card charge. If you use checking account information, there is only the 1.5% base Donorbox charge.

Meet Your New Neighbors. Bring them a gift bag from MVUMC and add your own gift to the bag... of a baked good or kitchen towel or something if you like. Let our new residents know that they are welcome to be our guests any time here at Mountain View. Bags are available for you to pick up at the tables and counter in the narthex.

From Your Car Door to the Church Door. Our Congregational Carrier is available to take you to the Narthex door before and after worship services. It can carry what you use for mobility assistance or we have a wheelchair and walkers available too. Park in the West lot, exit your car and wave down at the driver.

Safe At Home Ministry—We all need a hand sometimes ... we need a grab bar installed, a ramp put in, batteries changed in our smoke detector, a light bulb changed that we cannot reach, things like this. If you find yourself in this position, call the church office to get added to the list. If you have some spare time and can help, call the church office to find out what is on the list!

DAILY PRAYERS

Everyone can use a prayer even when they don't think they need it. Please take a

moment in prayer for these people this week. These are people who have touched Mountain View at one time or another. They may or may not be in crisis.

Daily Prayers for the Families of

September 18, 2023
Morgan, Alice, adult daughter Leesa
September 19, 2023
Churchill, Linn
September 20, 2023
Salnette, Barbara
September 21, 2023
Grossman, Todd
September 22, 2023
Wakeley, Shannon
September 23, 2023
McBride, Kal & Cindy, child Katie
September 24, 2023
Bassett, Mary