

## STEWARDSHIP IN A TIME OF CRISIS

Faith and Giving! Good stewards recognize the blessings of God in their lives. In gratitude, the stewards desire to give back to God and to others as much as possible. They offer a sacrifice of praise to God through the gift of their time, talent and treasure in service of God and neighbor, and in turn, God pours blessings out on them. In all things give thanks for the faithfulness of God and the work you have been called to do. Those who look for scarcity will be sure to find it. Those who believe in God's sustaining provision will discover what they need – and what they don't.

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER: (UNISON)

God of grace and mercy: we offer our gifts to you this day, knowing that is your love and presence that have sustained us through all our difficult days. We know there have been days when fear and anxiety have gotten the better of us, and we have needed the reminder Paul gave in the Epistle to the Romans, "If God is for us, who is against us?" Help us to live as Christ calls us, to share what we have and show love and compassion, as Christ taught us. We boldly pray, in the name of Jesus our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN: "Cry of My Heart" TFWS 2165

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~SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION~

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All: May the grace of God surround you.  
May the grace of God uplift you.  
May the grace of God stand with you through the challenges ahead.  
May the grace of God convince you, in every situation, to love.  
Go now to love others, even as Christ loves you.

Pastor: May the holy wisdom of God, guard your ways and guide your paths. May the living truth of God enlighten your hearts and open your minds. And may the living Spirit of God Give you life, and life to the fullest!

POSTLUDE:



5th AVENUE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

323 South 5th Avenue ~ West Bend WI 53095

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8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ July 26, 2020

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## JESUS WANTS *FAT HOGS!*

(6-WEEKS SERMON SERIES)

**Faithful** - to be loyal,  
constant, and steadfast.  
Are we steadfast and  
constant in our pursuit of  
God, His Word, and His  
purposes?

Available  
Teachable

Holy  
Obedient  
Growing

Ms. Alana Dalton, Liturgist

Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Pastor

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~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

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**ORGAN PRELUDE:**

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~WELCOME~

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**GREETING:**

L: God, we have come here this morning to learn wisdom from your Word, from your Holy Spirit, and from one another. We have come so that wisdom may call us out of the darkness and into the light. We have come to have the deeper, richer, wisdom-filled life that you have promised to each of us.

**P: Oh God, make us ready to hear the Words spoken to our hearts this morning. Call us to hear your wisdom and grant us the courage to respond.**

**CENTERING MUSIC:**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)**

L: Though storms rage around me, I will clothe myself with the whole armor of God.

**P: I will fasten the belt of truth about my waist.**

L: I will place strength and determination as my shoes to aid me in my ministry and mission for God.

**P: I will take up the shield of faith with which I shall defend against evil ways.**

L: I will pray diligently at all times, offering prayers and supplication to God.

**P: The helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit will accompany me on my journey.**

L: Be strong in the Lord who provides for your every need.

**P: I place my confidence and trust in God always.**

**\*PRAYER: (UNISON)**

In the beauty of this place, we have come to pray, to worship, to receive healing and hope. We come from the struggles and triumphs of the week, needing to feel the soothing presence of God. Lord, be with us this day. Calm and soothe our souls. Cause us to rejoice that you have provided a special place where we may gather to talk of your presence and love; to sing your praises; and to be empowered to go forth to serve you. Amen.

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

L: Through his unending mercy and grace, our heavenly Father offers his Son Jesus Christ in exchange for our brokenness. Jesus is the light that brings joy in the morning and leads us to eternity by grace through faith. He has destroyed the grip of darkness that crushes the spirit and allows me to announce to you the good news: your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**HYMN:**

**“How Great Thou Art”**

**TFWS 2153**

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~WE PROCLAIM~

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**Proverbs 20:6 (CEV)**

L: There are many who say, “You can trust me!” But can they be trusted? Good people live right, and God blesses the children who follow their example.

**2 Timothy 1:3-7 (VOICE) (Unison)**

**All: Night and day I mention you in my prayers. I am always grateful for you, as I pray to the God my ancestors and I have served with a clear conscience. I remember how you cried, and I want to see you, because that will make me truly happy. I also remember the genuine faith of your mother Eunice. Your grandmother Lois had the same sort of faith, and I am sure that you have it as well. So I ask you to make full use of the gift that God gave you when I placed my hands on you. Use it well. God’s Spirit[b] doesn’t make cowards out of us. The Spirit gives us power, love, and self-control.**

L: The Word of God for the People of God. **P: Praise to the Living Word.**

**SERMON:**

**“Jesus Wants Steadfast Faithfulness”**

**Pastor Clarissa**

**PASTORAL PRAYER:**

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~INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS, TITHES, & OURSELVES~

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**5th Ave. United Methodist Church - “Earn, Save, Give” Stewardship**