

5th Ave. United Methodist Church - "Earn, Save, Give" Stewardship

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: (UNISON)**

One of the holiest moments in worship is the giving of our gifts during the offering. But, giving our money is not about money! That may be shocking to us, but our generosity in giving to God is not about money. It's about our **SPIRITUAL GROWTH** and our discipleship to Jesus Christ. Generosity is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, it is a means of Grace, and, it is a spiritual discipline. Our generous giving to God's work through the church is a matter of reaching out to the world, and expressing our thanksgiving for God's grace. Let us now cheerfully give God's tithe, and our offerings.

***CLOSING HYMN:** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH 431

~SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION~

Leader: We hope as you go forth from our worship, you will be reminded and assured both of our need to embody Christ's sacrificial love and also of God's ultimate victory over the powers of evil and injustices in our world. In one spirit we ponder:

L: The cross,	P: we will take it.
L: The bread,	P: we will break it.
L: The pain,	P: we will bear it.
L: The joy,	P: we will share it.
L: The Gospel,	P: we will live it.
L: The love,	P: we will give it.
L: The light,	P: we will cherish it.
L: The darkness,	P: God shall perish it.

Pastor: Almighty Father, I do not want to be a baby Christian anymore; I want to take Christianity seriously! Please anoint me to stand upright with you. Let me hold firm to my confession of Jesus Christ. Take away every persecution that the enemies may hurl against me. Empower me through your Holy Spirit to remain undefeatable, and anoint me to preach and teach your gospel throughout the world. Let my outreaches touch people's lives and lead them to the salvation of your Son Jesus Christ. At the end of my earthly journey, let me hear your statement of affirmation, "Well done and welcome my good servant!" For in the name of Jesus Christ I pray.

POSTLUDE:



5th AVENUE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

323 South 5th Avenue ~ West Bend WI 53095

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ August 30, 2020

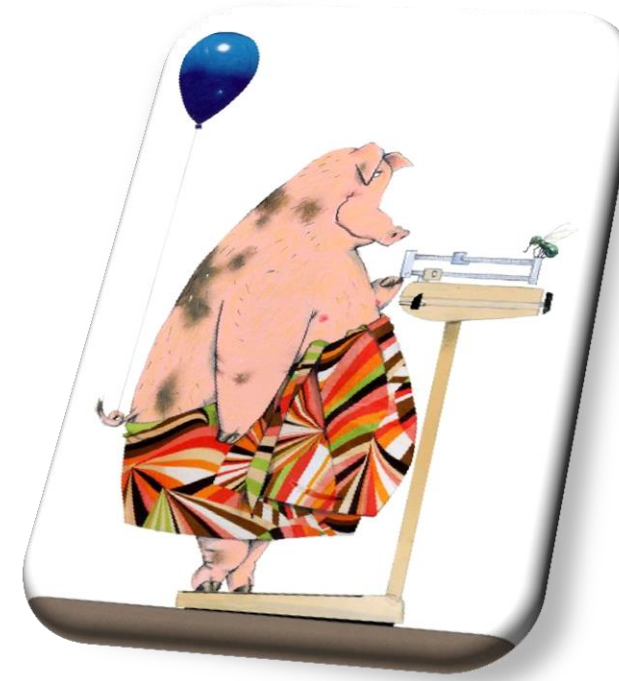
JESUS WANTS

FAT HOGs!

(6-WEEKS SERMON SERIES)

**Faithful
Available
Teachable**

**Holy
Obedient**



**Growing - Spiritual
growth is the process
of becoming more and more like Jesus Christ.**

Katie Glaser, Liturgist

Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Pastor

~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

ORGAN PRELUDE:

~WELCOME~

GREETING:

Pastor: Let your light shine! Let your hearts be glad! God is faithful to us, and God rules in love. Then let us worship God together. Together in understanding. For the Lord require of you to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God

CENTERING MUSIC:

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

One Voice: Our God is an awesome God who breathed into emptiness and created all that is.

Many Voices: With love and care, God shaped the world in all its diversity with mountains and valleys, rivers and deserts, and people of all colors and sizes.

One Voice: And threading through it all are beautiful dreams of justice, compassion, liberation, and peace.

Many Voices: O God, creator of our past, our present, and our future, we thank you for the many blessings you bestow on us each moment.

One Voice: Be with us now. Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

Many Voices: Lead us in paths of righteousness. Fill our hearts with compassion and a thirst for justice. Teach us to be co-creators, with You, of a world where all belong and share in the abundance you have given us.

All: Praise be to God.

***PRAYER: (UNISON)**

It is good to be together, God, on these screens, with these people, together listening for your voice, united by your Spirit. In this time of worship tell us about your kingdom of kindness so that we can seek it. God our Provider, we walked into church today needing you in different ways. Some of us need strength because we are facing a big challenge. Some of us need hope, because we are feeling like giving up. Some of us need love because we are feeling alone. We trust that you will provide for us,

whether through words or music, or in a quiet moment of reflection. You are here, you are with us. Show us your justice. We want to walk with you, humbly, closely, daily.

*** ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:**

L: God is just and forgiving. God receives us as we are, lifts us up and calls us again to be people upholding justice and peace. Receive God's pardon and peace, knowing that all sins are forgiven. **P: Thanks be to God!**

HYMN:
2226

"Bind Us Together"

TFWS

~WE PROCLAIM~

1 Peter 2:1-3 (The Voice)

So, get rid of hatefulness and deception, of insincerity and jealousy and slander. Be like newborn babies, crying out for spiritual milk that will help you grow into salvation if you have tasted and found the Lord to be good.

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

SERMON:

"FAT HOG for Jesus - A Time to Grow"

Pastor Clarissa

PASTORAL PRAYER:

~RECEPTION INTO 5th AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH~

Mark Harris

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

~STEWARDSHIP IN A TIME OF CRISIS~

In these unknown times, it is important to see and experience God's boundless generosity, give thanks for the gifts God gives us, and then reflect that generosity through our own lives. As we are reminded in 1 Peter 4:7-11 (The Message), even during these times, "take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything.

~RECEPTION INTO 5TH AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH~

Pastor: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, we now receive MARK HARRIS by transfer into membership of this congregation, Fifth Avenue United Methodist. By baptism Mark Harris has been received into membership of the one, holy, catholic Church. He has affirmed his baptism, confessed his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and has accepted the privileges and responsibilities of membership of the Church of Christ.

We rejoice in the pilgrimage that has brought Mark Harris to this time and place. We give thanks to God for every community of faith that has nurtured his faith along the way, and for his desire to join with us in Christian faith and discipleship. As he come to unite with us in this congregation we invite him to re-affirm his confession of faith, and to promise to live as a faithful member of this fellowship.

As a member of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? Mark: I will.

As a member of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness? Mark: I will.

The Pastor addresses the congregation:

Members of the household of God, I commend this person to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

The congregation responds: 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 personal covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Pastor: In the name of Christ we welcome you **MARK HARRIS**. May we grow together in unity, and be built up into the body of Christ in love, to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**