

Worship Service on July 23, 2023

Welcome and Announcements ~ Dottie Sundquist

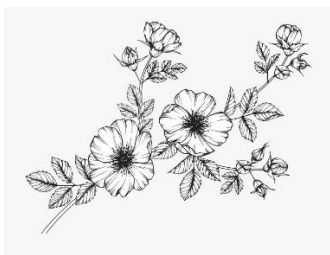
Thank you to everyone who prayed for and contributed to the Kid's Summer Discovery Camp this past week! It was a great blessing to share God's love and invitation to have courage with the children and families in our community.

Tuesday ~ Prayer Group at Craig and Kay Keith's home at 7 pm.
The book discussion will be on chapters 6 and 7 of *Gentle and Lowly*.

Wednesday ~ Seeking God Together meeting via zoom at 11 am.

Opportunity ~ There is a green bin in the fellowship room where you can place any donations of shelf-stable foods or toiletries for people served by the Community Food Cupboard.

Thank you to Russ and Glenna Taxter for the flowers in loving memory of Russ' sister, Barbara Bauersfeld.



Word of Preparation ~ Dottie Sundquist

Prelude ~ You are invited to listen to Barb West play the organ as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Call to Worship ~ Ephesians 1:15-19

Please join in reading the bold lines.

¹⁵ Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus

and your love for God's people everywhere,

¹⁶ I have not stopped thanking God for you.

I pray for you constantly,

¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

to give you spiritual wisdom and insight

so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

¹⁸ **I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light**

so that you can understand the confident hope

he has given to those he called—

his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand

the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him.



Song ~ “Sweet Hour of Prayer” (#570 in the blue hymnal)

*Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer!
That calls me from a world of care and bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known
In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!*

*Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer!
The joys I feel, the bliss I share of those whose anxious spirits burn
With strong desires for thy return!
With such I hasten to the place where God my Savior shows his face
And gladly take my station there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!*

*Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer!
Thy wings shall my petition bear to him whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless
And since he bids me seek his face, believe his word, and trust his grace
I’ll cast on him my every care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!*

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Praying Together ~

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever,
Amen.**

Song ~ Jim Holden will lead us in singing

“Lord, I Need You”

*Lord, I come, I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart*

Chorus
***Lord, I need You, oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You***

*Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me*

Chorus

*So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay*

Chorus

***My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You***

CCLI Song # 5925687

Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher
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Sermon Introduction ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

Scripture Passage ~ 1 John 5:13-21 (TLB) read by Dottie Sundquist

¹³ I have written this to you who believe in the Son of God
so that you may know you have eternal life.

¹⁴ And we are sure of this,
that he will listen to us
whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will.

¹⁵ And if we really know he is listening
when we talk to him and make our requests,
then we can be sure that he will answer us.

¹⁶ If you see a Christian sinning
in a way that does not end in death,
you should ask God to forgive him,
and God will give him life

unless he has sinned that one fatal sin.
But there is that one sin which ends in death,
and if he has done that, there is no use praying for him.

¹⁷ Every wrong is a sin, of course.

I'm not talking about these ordinary sins;
I am speaking of that one that ends in death.

¹⁸ No one who has become part of God's family
makes a practice of sinning,
for Christ, God's Son, holds him securely,
and the devil cannot get his hands on him.

¹⁹ We know that we are children of God
and that all the rest of the world around us
is under Satan's power and control.

²⁰ And we know that Christ, God's Son,
has come to help us understand and find the true God.
And now we are in God because we are in Jesus Christ his Son,
who is the only true God; and he is eternal Life.

²¹ Dear children, keep away from anything
that might take God's place in your hearts.

Amen.

Sermon ~ “God Hears Our Prayers” ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

Song ~ “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (# 585 in the blue hymnal)

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit. Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there*

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Benediction ~ Romans 12:12 (NLT)

“Rejoice in our confident hope.

**Be patient in trouble,
and keep on praying.”**

