

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

9:30 A.M.

CRAIG HINK

ORGAN PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

***Call to Worship**

LEADER: This month we work toward greater inclusion in every church, workplace, and family.

ALL: We gather today to be refreshed, renewed, and strengthened in our faith and in our resolve for the work we must do together.

LEADER: Listen, there is a voice calling us.

ALL: It is the voice of our Divine Beloved.

LEADER: The one who loves us invites us to mingle our voices together.

ALL: We call out in worship and praise together.

LEADER: Bring your hopes, expectations, and longings that you have carried with you throughout the week.

ALL: Here they are. We speak them in our spirit and with our words.

LEADER: Come and worship. Come and praise. Come and pray.

ALL: We commit ourselves to this sacred time of celebration.

***Opening Hymn**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

#87

***Prayer of Invocation (In Unison)**

We are called to build a community. One beyond the status quo. Beyond our own expectations. This comes at a cost of time, talent, and treasure. Just as Moses stirred the hearts of his people, we are called to be stirred to give toward this Kin-dom we are creating. They brought blue, purple, and crimson linen. They brought fine metals and gems of all kinds. Our gifts are likewise varied. Likewise valuable in the sight of God and each other. It is our willing hearts that make our gifts precious. In our giving, no matter how much or what kind, we connect our spirits and continue the work of Kin-dom Creation.

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Assurance**

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father
And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING**Matthew 9****The Call of Matthew**

⁹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner^[a] in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting^[b] with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed

¹⁸ While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹ for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. ²³ When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread through all of that district.

SERMON

"ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK"

Hymn

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

#79

Prayers of the People**Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer – Lord's Prayer – Cares Chorus Response****OFFERING**

Invitation & Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

We are all one human family. In your love you created us. Through your grace you reach out to us. You are great enough to hold us all in your arms at the same time. Help us to open our hearts to the world that you love. Teach us to weave our lives together. We yield to Spirit, offering what we have to the greater good. In this way, each day, we begin again in love.

***Closing Hymn**

"Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

#156