



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NEWPORT-MT. OLIVET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 22, 2024

11:00 a.m.

GATHERING & PRAISE

PRELUDE

Jean Williams & Connie Sublett

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Sasser

* INTROIT

Make Me a Servant

TFWS 2176

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus said: "Let the children come to me."

**All: The spirit of the Lord rests upon him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding.**

One: We are called to receive the kingdom of God as a little child.

All: The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid.

One: To all who receive him, who believe in his name,
he gives power to become children of God.

All: And a little child shall lead them.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Fairest Lord Jesus

UMH 189

* PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: Let us pray:

**All: God of unsearchable mystery and light,
your weakness is greater than our strength,
your foolishness brings all our cleverness to nothing,
your gentleness confounds the power we are quick to claim.**

**You call the first to be last and the last to be first;
the servant to be leader and ruler to be subject of all.**

**In this time of worship pour into our hearts
the wisdom of your Word and Spirit,
that we may know your purpose and live to your glory. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9:30-37

pg. 45, New Testament, Pew Bible

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word:

All: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

One: Lord Jesus Christ, there are times when we all feel like victims—
pawns in the systems of power and control around us.

You look into our hearts and question the roles we play in these systems.

Through the example of a child,

you teach us that it's not social status, or wealth, or notoriety that are important.

**All: We confess how easily our lives can become consumed
by the pursuit of power that elevates ourselves and harms others.**

One: You risked personal comfort and security when you reached out
to those on the edge of your society, lepers and prostitutes,
the desperate and the disabled—

those who were considered cursed and unclean.

**All: Forgive us when we fail to meet your challenge
to identify with those whom society would call worthless.**

One: By your very life and ministry, you revealed to us that discipleship
is a journey into servanthood and powerlessness.

All: Forgive us for favoring competition over compassion.

One: You saw the image of God in everyone

and showed us exactly what it means to be the servant of all.

**All: Too often, we see others as rivals in the race
for success, influence, and popularity.**

One: You offer us the way to live into your kin-dom of light and love, declaring:
"Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

**All: Imprint these words on our hearts and place your living Spirit within us,
so that we may serve you and others with wisdom and mercy. Amen.**

WELCOMING MUSIC

Where Children Belong

TFWS 2233

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SUNG RESPONSE *Jesus Loves Me* UMH 191 (v. 1)

MESSAGE *Let Go of My Ego!* Pastor Fleischer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROFESSING OUR FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* UMH 881

THANKSGIVING

OFFERTORY *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* Jackie Livesay

* DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 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.**

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN OF DEDICATION *Children of the Heavenly Father* UMH 141

* COMMISSION & BLESSING

* SUNG DISMISSAL *May You Run and not Be Weary* TFWS 2281

* POSTLUDE Jean Williams & Connie Sublett

* Indicates congregation standing (if able)
UMH = United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS = The Faith We Sing

