

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023~9:30 A.M.**

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

A SPECIAL START TO WORSHIP BY THE SWEET ADELINES QUARTET

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, set your blessing on us as we begin this day together.

**Confirm in us the truth by which we rightly live; confront us with the truth from which we wrongly turn.**

We ask not for what we want but for what you know we need,

**As we offer this day and ourselves for you and to you through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

HYMN....."O How I Love Jesus" .....UMH #170

UNISON PRAYER

**Holy God, author of the Word made flesh, to whom belongs both the first Word and the last, open to us your Spirit, that as scripture is spoken and your Word proclaimed, we may be comforted, convinced, and changed to the glory of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM..... “Worship Tapestry” .....Faith Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Unison

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Unison

**God of wonder, we offer to you these gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING.....Edy Barber

**Exodus 14:19-31**

Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” So Moses stretched out his

hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

### **Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21**

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider<sup>[a]</sup> he has thrown into the sea.

The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation;  
this is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The LORD is a man of war;  
the LORD is his name.

“Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea,  
and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

The floods covered them;  
they went down into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,  
your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries;  
you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble.

At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;  
the floods stood up in a heap;  
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, ‘I will pursue, I will overtake,  
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.  
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.’

You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;  
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

“Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?  
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

**THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!**

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

HYMN....."Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" .....TFWS #2120

SCRIPTURE READINGS.....Pastor Jon Schultz

**Romans 14:1-12**

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confess<sup>[b]</sup> to God.”

So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**Matthew 18:21-35**

Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

MESSAGE....."Collateral Damage or Communal Blessings".....Pastor Jon Schultz

HYMN....."Freely, Freely" .....UMH #389

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

**REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

**Colony Court:** Shirley Burdick, Gloria Rollag

**Janesville Nursing Home:** Nina Youngberg

**Lakeshore Inn:** Leona Quast, Marian Broughten

**Latham Place:** Joe Tollefson

**Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna:** Ardella Draheim

**Prayer Requests for Sunday:** Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Beverly Pippenger, Bob Stephan, Gloria Rollag, government officials, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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09/17/2023 (Sun.)	9:30 am - Worship Service 10:30 am - Fellowship
09/18/2023 (Mon.)	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 3:00-4:30 pm - Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room)
09/20/2023 (Wed.)	2:30 pm - Elizabeth Circle (*LV Room) 7:00 pm - Choir Practice (*LV Room)
09/24/2023 (Sun.)	9:30 am - Worship Service 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Fellowship

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\*Lakeview Room    \*\*Fellowship Hall

**Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:**

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

**Pastor's Office Hours this Week:**

Monday & Thursday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Rev. Jon Schultz Contact Info.:**

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