



UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF ANOKA

*Following Jesus, Providing Hope, Making Disciples*

**Getting to Know You**  
**Sunday, September 19, 2021**

**PRELUDE**

*Praise the Lord on High* by Rachel Sawyer

**INTROIT**

*This is the Day* by Les Garratt  
Chancel Choir

**WELCOME**

**HYMN**

*For the Beauty of the Earth* (#92)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given,  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gather now, people of God, and sing praises!

**We worship God, who provides for our needs.**

We bring all we have, all we hope for, and all we need before our God.

**May God hear the cries of our hearts.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**God, we come before you together today in worship and praise. We bring all of who we are: our successes and failures, our joys and heartaches, our healing and our hurting. Meet us here, God, and bless our gathering with the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Be Present At Our Table* (#621)

Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored  
These mercies bless and grant that we, may feast in fellowship with thee

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Together we come to the table, invited by Jesus. All are welcome. Come meet Jesus again and again in this weekly meal. Prepare your hearts and spirits and bodies as we share in God's grace poured out for us.

The Lord be with you: **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts to the Lord: **We lift up our hearts with thanks and praise!**

We are yours, all yours, Holy God, all our lives, all our thanks, all our praise, we give it all to you, with all our bodies, and minds, and voices. We are your people, whom you have called covenant with you, a covenant we have continually broken, and you have continuously sustained. How can we but praise you, joining our voices with the song of angels and saints,

**Jesus Christ who comes in our God's name, you are worthy! Lamb of God who died and rose again, you are worthy! Hosanna now we sing! Hosanna now we sing!**

You are holy, O God! You are worthy, O Christ! Worthy when you preached the good news that God's kingdom has drawn near and as you have gathered disciples, then and now, to learn and show the world what life in God's reign means: healing for the sick, new life for the dead, cleansing for the lepers, freedom for the possessed, new birth, new hope, new creation breaking in for all.

Worthy too, the night we betrayed you, when you took the bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to your disciples. Worthy when you told them, "This is my body broken for you. Remember me." **We remember.**

Worthy when you took the cup, praised God and shared it, and worthy when you said, "This is the cup of salvation. Drink from it and remember me." **We remember.**

We remember, and we praise you with our lives and these gifts of bread and cup, proclaiming with one voice the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Come upon us, Holy Spirit and upon these gifts. Make them Christ for us. Make us one in Christ as we pray for the church and the world:

That we may proclaim the gospel boldly, **Hear us, O God.**

That we may offer your healing for all who are sick, or torn, or weary, **Hear us, O God.**

That our beloved dead may be raised, and death's power vanquished, **Hear us, O God.**

That all who are possessed, oppressed, and distressed may be set free, **Hear us, O God.**

Come and fill this feast, Holy Spirit, this day, and every day until that day when we eat together in your kingdom and our rejoicing shall know no end. All blessing, honor, glory and power be yours, Holy God, now and forever. **Amen!**

We eat together in grace and love. We drink together in mercy and salvation.

## **PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION**

**Lord, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this meal and the grace we receive from you strengthen us in love. Send us to serve you as we serve others in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Come to the Table* by Allen Pote  
Chancel Choir

## **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

Today, we give thanks for the blessing of backpacks for our children, youth, teachers and school staff. I invite you to hold your backpack and stand wherever you are - here in the sanctuary or at home! That includes EVERYONE who has recently gone back to school - children, youth, and adults.

Over the next 9 months, these backpacks will carry supplies and papers, lunches and sneakers, accomplishments and challenges.

**ALL: God bless these backpacks! And God bless the children, youth, and adults who carry them to school, at home learning spaces, and work.**

**Students, Teachers, School Staffers:**

**May our backpacks remind us that you are with us; and may we meet each new day with hope and purpose. God, open our minds to the lessons each day holds; help us to make friends and to be good neighbors. Guide us in making choices that honor you.**

God bless these backpacks, these backpack carriers, and all people everywhere.

We hope that each time you see this cross keychain you will remember that you carry this blessing with you from the congregation:

**ALL: We love you. We support you. We are praying for you! May each day offer you something to learn, something to enjoy, and someone who shows you God's love in action in our world. Amen.**

*\*\*Dismiss to Sunday school with Joan Hartman (Director of Family Ministries)\*\**

## **HYMN**

*Children of the Heavenly Father (#141)*

Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given

God his own doth tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish  
From all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh  
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy

## **FIRST READING**

Psalm 61

God, listen to my cry; pay attention to my prayer! When my heart is weak, I cry out to you from the very ends of the earth. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I am because you have been my refuge, a tower of strength in the face of the enemy. Please let me live in your tent forever! Please let me take refuge in the shelter of your wings! Because you, God, have heard my promises; You've given me the same possession as those who honor your name. Add days to the king's life! Let his years extend for many generations! Let him be enthroned forever before God! Make it so love and faithfulness watch over him! Then I will sing praises to your name forever, and I will do what I promised every single day.

## SECOND READING

Mark 10:46-52

Jesus and his followers came into Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho, together with his disciples and a sizable crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, Timaeus' son, was sitting beside the road. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was there, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy!" Many scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, "Son of David, show me mercy!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him forward." They called the blind man, "Be encouraged! Get up! He's calling you." Throwing his coat to the side, he jumped up and came to Jesus. Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said, "Teacher, I want to see." Jesus said, "Go, your faith has healed you." At once he was able to see, and he began to follow Jesus on the way.

## HYMN

*Help Us Accept Each Other (#560)*

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us and Bring us to believe:  
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people, for all - not just for some,  
to love them as we find them or as they may become.

## SERMON

*What do you need?*

Rev. Rachael Warner

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Come Build a Church* by Ken Medema  
Chancel Choir

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Rachael Warner

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds (#557)*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Joy* by Garrett Parker

Organist, Diane Gronewold  
Worship Tech, Jake Berg