

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**  
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY  
**WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND**  
**UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE**

**October 16, 2022**

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

*All music used by permission. CCLI License #1325764; CCLI Streaming License #20116748*

Liturgist: Evann Ridgeway

[CC] = closed-captioned

---

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

---

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer  
Accompanist

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Love Divine, A Loves Excelling”

GTG #366

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown  
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art  
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive  
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above  
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise

CALL TO WORSHIP

Evann Ridgeway

Lord, who taught us faith by preaching,

**Help us to believe.**

Lord, who taught us hope by prayer,

**Help us to understand.**

Lord, who taught us love by parables,

**Help us to care. Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Evann Ridgeway

Please join me in 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.**

ANTHEM "More Precious Than Silver" SJU Chancel Choir  
*Lynn deShazo*

Lord, you are more precious than silver  
Lord, you are more costly than gold  
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds  
And nothing I desire compares with you.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:1 – 8 Evann Ridgeway

TIME WITH CHILDREN "Storytellers" Pamela Love

MESSAGE "THE GREATEST STORYTELLER EVER" Pamela Love

OFFERTORY SONG "I Love to Tell the Story" GTG #462

I love to tell the story of unseen things above  
Of Jesus and his glory; of Jesus and his love  
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true  
It satisfies my longing as nothing else could do

*Refrain:*

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love*

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat  
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word

*Refrain*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song  
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

CALL TO GENEROSITY Evann Ridgeway

Teaching and healing God, we thank you for these offerings and ask your blessing on the purposes for which they will be used to help others. We also pray that our actions help make us better Christians. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" GTG #465

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit; O 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 thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

BENEDICTION

Pamela Love

Lord, as we leave this place, we ask that you help us remember what you teach in your parables. We ask that you give us the wisdom and kindness to apply these lessons in our everyday lives. In Jesus Christ's name we pray, Amen.

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer  
accompanist

---

*Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible*

### **Luke 18:1 – 8**

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup> In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

