

**MOUNT VERNON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**MORNING WORSHIP**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**June 19, 2022**

PRELUDE

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” (Arr. Joel Raney)

*Juliet Cho*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

We often feel as if we are wandering through our lives, searching for something we cannot name. We come today to listen for hope, to pray for strength, and to experience God’s love.

**Speak to us of faith, hope, and love, O Lord.**

As the deer longs for flowing water in the wilderness, we long to drink deeply of God’s promise for us. Knowing God is here, we join together on our journey.

**Lead us to your still waters, O Lord.**

Imprisoned by rules of our own making, we come to remember and claim our faith. Assured by the vision of Christ, whose sacrifice leads us to heaven, we come in fellowship with one another.

**Clothe us in the love of Christ, O Lord.**

With shouts of praise and songs of thanksgiving, we come to celebrate the God of hope, the Spirit of peace, and the Christ of redeeming love.

**We come to pray.**

**We come to sing.**

**We come to worship and praise.**

\* OPENING HYMN 141

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

**1 Children of the heavenly Father  
safely in his bosom gather;  
nestling bird nor star in heaven  
such a refuge e'er was given.**

**2 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.**

**3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
from the Lord his children sever;  
unto them his grace he showeth,  
and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

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

\* MORNING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**Come, O God, be with us here. As much as a deer longs for streams of cool water,  
we long to know that you are with us. When trouble and sorrow come, we need you.**

**Help us remember that you are always with us, and that your love is steadfast.**

**Put your song into our hearts, that we may praise you this day. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 8:26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' — <sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## SERMON

"Incarnate Love"

Jae Cho

## \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* GLORIA 70

**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. Amen.**

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY SONG      “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (Arr. Grace Kim)      ✠ *Abby Chism,  
Samuel Spicer, and Juliet Cho*

\* DOXOLOGY 94      “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.**

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of the ages,  
in our busy lives, we do not always make time to love, to pray, or to sing your  
praises. We want to be strong, yet we often feel out of control: buffeted by the  
winds of change, rocked by the earthquakes in our relationships, burned by the  
fires of doubt. Forgetting what we cannot see, we ask, “Why have you forgotten  
me?” Help us trust your presence, even when we feel utterly alone, trapped in our  
dark night of the soul. With the promise of Christ as our hope, lead us from our  
own wilderness wanderings into the well-tended garden of your love.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The steadfast love of God is with you— yesterday, today, and tomorrow.  
Whether you turn away or doubt, whether you follow timidly or joyfully, you are  
loved and forgiven in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

\* CLOSING HYMN 130      “God Will Take Care of You”

**1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you;  
beneath his wings of love abide, God will take care of you.**

*Refrain:*

**God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.**

**2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you;  
when dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you. [Refrain]**

**3. All you may need he will provide, God will take care of you;  
nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you. [Refrain]**

**4. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you;  
lean, weary one, upon his breast, God will take care of you. [Refrain]**

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

“Only Trust Him” (Marianna Kim)

*Juliet Cho*

✦ **Abby Chism** is a violinist and pianist. She currently works in the Danville Symphony Orchestra as a principal first violinist.