

SUNDAY, 6/14/2020
10 a.m.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATION TO OFFERING
NO Virtual Coffee Hour following our service today

PRELUDE

Deb Verdegan, Piano

CENTERING WORDS AND OPENING PRAYER

Adapted from Ministry Matters.com

Rev. Penny Parkin, Frankfort, MI UMC

God's grace is abounding and full of unlimited love. As we gather this day to thank God for infinite mercy, we lift our voices as one giving thanks for the source of our life and faith through all our days, and before that, through the days of our ancestors. When the whip of Pharaoh held Israel in bondage, God broke the yoke of the tyrant, and the prisoners escaped. When the exiles in Babylon trembled before their captors, God raised up a deliverer, and the refugees returned. And when their descendants believed their sin had doomed them to life without hope, God sent them and us Jesus, and the hopeless rejoiced. Not only did God redeem them from their sin, but God reconciled them in the midst of their sin. We thank God this day, that where sin abounds, grace much more abounds.

God calls us to be a priestly people and a holy nation, but we, like lost sheep, go astray. We know that peace comes through openness to our neighbors, but we make little effort to crash the walls between us. We know that the soft answer turns away wrath, but we greet our enemies with hard words and even harder looks. We know that self-giving breeds self-givers, but we refuse others the grace with which God treats us. We criticize fellow believers for not patterning their lives after Jesus, yet we do not mirror his life.

May today be a turning point. May today be a renewed call to justice, to love, to mercy. Let us take our place at the foot of the mountain of revelation. May our ears be opened that we might hear God's commandments, and our hearts open that we might keep the covenant. May we answer the call again, or for the first time as we exclaim: "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient."

As we think of other sheep who have gone astray, we think of ourselves as God's instruments for bringing them home. If they tarry for a sympathizing tear, may we shed it without shame. If they wait for a soothing word, may we speak it without hesitation. If they desire a cup of water, may we offer it without delay. If they hunger for a decent meal, may we provide it without suspicion. Remembering that God is not

impressed by gracious words unaccompanied by generous deeds, may God make us the instruments of grace in speech and in action.

Let us pray. God, out of deep need, we enter this time of worship. We are seeking your presence and your guidance. As Jesus charged his waiting disciples, deliver now your charge to us. And lead us, as he led them. Amen.

Please join in singing our opening song today.
The lyrics should be on your screen.

SONG

Softly and Tenderly Deb Verdegan, Piano
Rev. Cathy Christman & Julie Serstad, Vocalists

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 9:35—10:14

Rev. Penny Parkin, Frankfort, MI UMC

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or

copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Called by Name*

From the staff at Pine Lake Camp

SERMON: *Sent From Home* Rev. Cathy Christman

MINISTRY MOMENT: *Mail A Care Package to Someone*

*Please join in singing our closing song today.
The lyrics should be on your screen.*

CLOSING SONG *Here I Am Lord* Deb Verdegan, piano
Rev. Cathy Christman & Julie Serstad, Vocalists

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE Deb Verdegan, Keyboard

THANK YOU TO REV. PENNY PARKIN AS
LITURGIST, VOCALISTS AND DEB VERDEGAN AS
MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN
THE SERVICE TODAY.

The service today was recorded in Frankfort, MI.

CHURCH STAFF

*Pam Mickelson, Administrative Assistant
Lidige Hashani, Custodian*



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