**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023



*“Instead, seek God’s kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.”*

*(Luke 12:31)*

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**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship** (*spoken responsively*)

L: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart

**P: Before the gods I sing your praise**

L: You have exalted your name and your word above everything

**P: I give thanks for your steadfast love and your faithfulness**

L: All the kings of the earth shall praise you

**P: For they have heard the words of your mouth**

L: They shall sing of the ways of the LORD

**P: For great are you LORD**

**\*Opening Song:** “Mighty To Save”

**Everyone needs compassion**

**A love that's never failing**

**Let mercy fall on me**

**Everyone needs forgiveness**

**The kindness of a Saviour**

**The hope of nations**

**[Chorus:]**

**Saviour, he can move the mountains**

**My God is mighty to save**

**He is mighty to save**

**Forever Author of Salvation**

**He rose and conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

**So take me as you find me**

**All my fears and failures**

**Fill my life again**

**I give my life to follow**

**Everything that I believe in**

**Now I surrender**

**Saviour, he can move the mountains**

**My God is mighty to save**

**He is mighty to save**

**Forever Author of Salvation**

**He rose and conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see**

**We're singing for the glory of the risen king Jesus**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see**

**We're singing for the glory of the risen king Jesus**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see**

**We're singing for the glory of the risen king Jesus**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see**

**We're singing for the glory of the risen king Jesus**

**Saviour, he can move the mountains**

**My God is mighty to save**

**He is mighty to save**

**Forever Author of Salvation**

**He rose and conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

**conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

**conquered the grave**

**Jesus conquered the grave**

**\*Congregational Song:** “Great Are You Lord”

**You give life, You are love**

**You bring light to the darkness**

**You give hope, You restore**

**Every heart that is broken**

**Great are You, Lord**

**You give life, You are love**

**You bring light to the darkness**

**You give hope, You restore**

**Every heart that is broken**

**Great are You, Lord**

**[Chorus]**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise to You only**

**You give life, You are love**

**You bring light to the darkness**

**You give hope, You restore**

**Every heart that is broken**

**Great are You, Lord**

**[Chorus]**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise to You only**

**All the earth will shout Your praise**

**Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing**

**Great are You, Lord**

**All the earth will shout Your praise**

**Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing**

**Great are You, Lord**

**All the earth will shout Your praise**

**Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing**

**Great are You, Lord**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise to You only**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise**

**It's Your breath in our lungs**

**So we pour out our praise to You only**

**Great are You, Lord** (2x)

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy. You are the author and giver of all good things. Graft in our hearts the love of you. Nourish us with all goodness and bring forth un us the fruit of good works, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples…

**P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Congregational Reading** Isaiah 51

**P: Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like grass; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended. Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Announcements**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Gospel Lesson**: Luke 12:27-34

Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, you of little faith! And do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek God’s kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**Sermon** “Faithful Promises”

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Hymn of Response:** “Be Still My Soul” #97 (vv.1-3)

**Be still, my soul, The Lord is on thy side**

**Bear patiently, the cross of grief or pain**

**Leave to thy God, to order and provide**

**In every change, He faithful will remain**

**Be still, my soul, thy best thy heavenly friend**

**Through thorny ways, leads to a joyful end**

**Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake**

**To guide the future as He has the past**

**Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake**

**All now mysterious shall be bright at last**

**Be still, my soul, the waves and wind still know**

**His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below**

**Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on**

**When we shall be forever with the Lord**

**When disappointment, grief and fear are gone**

**Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored**

**Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past**

**All safe and blessed, we shall meet at last**

**Invitation of Offering**

L: The sustaining love of Christ frees us from the grip of the tomb, that we may desire him as the fullness of life. Make us faithful stewards of the fragile bounty of this earth, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**

**\*Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** “Great is Thy Faithfulness” #44 (vv1-3)

**Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father**

**There is no shadow of turning with Thee**

**Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not**

**As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see**

**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest**

**Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above**

**Join with all nature in manifold witness**

**To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see**

**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,**

**Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide**

**Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow**

**Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see**

**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**\*Benediction**

L: May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.