



**Stand if you are able.*



Leaders in Today's Worship Service

ACCOMPANIST: LAURA WAGNER
LAY READER: KAREN GABA

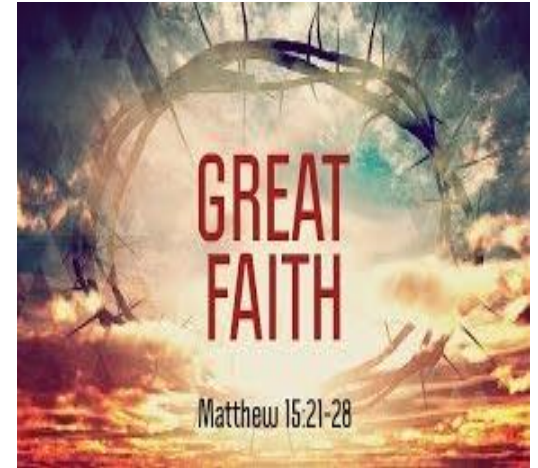
KW 8/16/23

Minooka
United Methodist
Church

Rev. Dave Buerstetta,
Pastor

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Welcome to Minooka United Methodist Church

Saturday, August 19th, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Matthew 15:21-28 (The Voice)

²¹ Jesus left that place and withdrew to Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman—a *non-Jew*—came to Him.

Canaanite Woman (*wailing*): Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is possessed by a demon. *Have mercy, Lord!*

²³ Jesus said nothing. *And the woman continued to wail.* His disciples came to Him.

Disciples: Do something—she keeps crying after us!

Jesus: ²⁴ I was sent here only to gather up the lost sheep of Israel.

²⁵ The woman came up to Jesus and knelt before Him.

Canaanite Woman: Lord, help me!

Jesus: ²⁶ It is not right to waste the children's bread by feeding dogs.

Canaanite Woman: ²⁷ But, Lord, even dogs eat the crumbs that fall by the table as their master is eating.

²⁸ Jesus—*whose ancestors included Ruth and Rahab*—spoke with *kindness and insight*.

Jesus: Woman, you have great faith. And your request is done.

And her daughter was healed, right then and from then on.

Entering Music Accompanist

Welcome (Greeting) Pastor Dave

Announcements (Announcing) Pastor Dave

Prelude (Preparing) Accompanist

***Call to Worship (Gathering)** Lay Reader

Reader: Calling all children of the Living God: the gospel is good news for every age and every stage.

Many Voices: Let us worship together, the young and the older.

Reader: The good news is proclaimed in God's words, and also with crayons, silly songs, snacks, and time for rest.

Many Voices: Let us worship together, every generation.

Reader: We come together with different abilities and disabilities, learning in a rainbow of ways and styles.

Many Voices: Let us worship together, with our found family of faith.

Reader: All are welcome in the arms of Christ who proclaimed, "Let the children come to me!"

Many Voices: Let us worship together, united in our eternal hope.

***Opening Hymn (Singing)** "Here I Am, Lord" UMH #593

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Lord, send Your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace. (Repeat)

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

Verse 1

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.

Verse 2

We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

Verse 3

As a green bud in the springtime is the sign of life renewed, so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued. As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone, may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

Ken Medema
CCLI Song #22829
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HYMNS

Here I Am, Lord

Verse 1

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the
night.
I will go, Lord. If You lead me.
I will hold, Your people in my
heart.

Verse 2

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Verse 3

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Verse 1

Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart.

Verse 2

Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart.

Verse 3

Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart.

Verse 4

Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart.

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Song # 3184437
William Farley Smith
Music: 1989 The United Methodist Publishing
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Back to School Blessing

Katrina: This school year, may you all be curious and kind, gentle and strong, brave and loving. May these buttons remind you that God is always with you. As you sit and as you stand, as you learn and as you play, in every fear and every celebration, may you know God, your friend, is always there.

Pastor Dave: Thank you God for each student, teacher, staff, and family. God of fresh starts and new beginnings, we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you. In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, helpful calculators, and so much more. In our hearts, we carry big feelings, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations. There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring—of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

Many Voices: God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all.

Pastor Dave: Be with us as we ride the bus. Be with us as we walk. Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes. However we get there, and whatever we wear, bless this journey into something new.

For the grown-ups going back to school, With-Us God, be with them too.

Many Voices: Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders, and for all they do to help students learn and grow. God, our friend who is full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

Pastor Dave: Thank you God for each one here and for the opportunity to learn and to grow. Amen.

Hymn (Singing) “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” UMH #402

Community Prayer & Lord’s Prayer (Praying) Lay Reader
[silent prayer]

Reader: Living God, our teacher, you help us understand the world around us. Thank you for the privilege of education. You have blessed our communities with teachers who take new skills and concepts and pass them along to each new class of students. You entered our world as a child to show us how to be fully human, to show us how to be children of God. You have given our children

minds that grow and develop in unique ways, at unique speeds, and we are astounded by that miracle.

[silent prayer]

You speak to us through the words, actions, play, and feelings of children of all ages. You call us to listen to your Holy Spirit speaking through our young siblings in Christ.

We celebrate the beginning of this school year and ask for your blessings upon the students, the educators, the staffs, and the families who support them all. But in this celebration of education and learning, we remember there are children and families and teachers who do not have the resources they need. When systems are unjust, the outcomes are unacceptable. Today we remember those who are beginning school this year with what they need to learn and grow in safety. Today we also remember those who lack supplies, teachers, safe buildings, and accommodations for all needs and abilities.

Inspire us to do all we can to resist that injustice and make it right.

[silent prayer]

Our prayer continues as Jesus taught us, saying...

Offering Invitation (Giving)

Pastor Dave

Offertory & *Doxology (Blessing Our Gifts With Music)

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH #95

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.

***Dedication Prayer (Blessing Our Gifts With Prayer)** Lay Reader

Many Voices: Generous God, as we bring you our offerings this day, we affirm your presence with us in the pits of despair as well as in the palaces of plenty. We give with gratitude, in Christ’s holy name. Amen.

Scripture Reading (Reading Scripture)

Lay Reader

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 15:21-28 (The Voice)

Reader: May God bless the reading, hearing, and living of these words.

Many Voices: Amen!

Hymn (Singing) “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” (X2)

TFWS #2193

Sermon (Proclaiming)

“Learning, Like Jesus”

Pastor Dave

***Closing Hymn (Singing)** “As a Fire Is Meant for Burning”

TFWS #2237

***Benediction (Sending Forth)**

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave: Students, teachers, administrators, staff, families, and all who love them, go out into the beautiful world that God has made!

Many Voices: Go and play! Go and learn! Go and love others!

Pastor Dave: May we all be filled with lovingkindness for ourself and for everyone around us. Amen.

Postlude

Accompanist