



Vestal United Methodist Church

May 9, 2021



Welcome Prelude

Call to Worship

New Creation by N. T. Wright

* Hymn of Praise 2236 FWS

Gather Us In [verses 1,2 & 4]

* Sharing Signs of Peace

Gathering Prayer [all read together]

Leader: Jesus offers a new – old commandment, that we should love each other.

All: With the incredible power and the unfathomable depth of God's love for us we can – we must – love one another. It is in our love for one another that the world will know who and what we worship. God, our Creator and Sustainer, has blessed us beyond what we can imagine – to the point that our love overflows. God help us to remember your commandment and calling to offer your love, hope, and peace in all circumstances. Amen.

Silence

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem

Ride On, King Jesus!

SPIRITUAL: ARR HALL JOHNSON
Isaac Garrigues - Cortelyou

First Scripture Reading

I John 5:1-5

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Children's Message

* Hymn 445 UMH

Happy the Home When God Is There

Second Scripture Reading

John 15:9-17

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Message

Complete Joy

Mike Willis

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Living the Faith

Offering Ourselves to God

* **Hymn 2175 FWS**

Together We Serve

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational Response 2184 FWS** Sent Out in Jesus Name

Postlude

Opening Hymn 2236: Gather Us In, vss. 1, 2 & 4

WORDS & MUSIC: Marty Haugen
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1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in — the lost and forsaken,
gather us in — the blind and the lame,
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young — our lives are a mystery,
we are the old — who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in — the rich and the haughty,
gather us in — the proud and the strong;
give us new heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, lightyears away,
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in — all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Closing Hymn 2175: Together We Serve

WORDS & MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon
© 1998 Hope Publishing Co.

1. Together we serve, united by love,
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
extending your love to the last and the least.

2. We seek to become a beacon of hope,
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

3. We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
We offer a home to those who will come,
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

4. Together, by grace, we witness and work,
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,
remembering love is the strength of our song.

Hymn 445: Happy the Home When God Is There

WORDS: Henry Ware, Jr., 1846
MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1866

1. Happy the home when God is there,
and love fills every breast;
when one their wish, and one their prayer,
and one their heavenly rest.

2. Happy the home where Jesus' name
is sweet to every ear;
where children early speak his fame,
and parents hold him dear.

3. Happy the home where prayer is heard,
and praise is wont to rise;
where parents love the sacred Word
and all its wisdom prize.

4. Lord, let us in our homes agree
this blessed peace to gain;
unite our hearts in love to thee,
and love to all will reign.

Response 2184: Sent Out In Jesus' Name

WORDS: Anonymous;
trans. Jorge Maldonado, alt.
MUSIC: Traditional Cuban;
arr. by Carmen Peña
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Sent out in Jesus' name,
our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.

The task is ours to do,
to set it really free.
O help us to obey
and carry out your will.