

July 12, 2020
6th Sunday after Pentecost

<https://youtu.be/lkavOiXFWu0> - Worship Video

Welcome

*Welcome to worship at Merville United Methodist Church.
I am Pastor Jill Clem and I am so happy you are joining me today.
As we worship, I hope you will feel the presence of God*

Announcements

- Please note that the church building is closed to visitors. If you are in need of speaking to Hollie or Pastor Jill please call the church office.
- Please be sure to check for updated information on our Facebook page and our website.
- If you are not receiving church emails and would like to, please email us at mumchurch@wiatel.net and we will add you to our list.
- You will find all of our worship videos on our You Tube channel under Merville United Methodist Church.
- We encourage you to continue to mail in your gifts and offerings to the church office or you may set up online giving by contacting Holli our administrative secretary. You will need to fill out a form and provide a voided check.

Gathering Words

God nourishes the soil of our lives with goodness, courage, hope and love so that we may grow in his Word and in his Way. Amen.

Song

“The Sower’s Song” by Andrew Peterson

<https://youtu.be/32JRkxjSwxE>

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Oh God, I am furrowed like the field
Torn open like the dirt
And I know that to be healed
That I must be broken first
I am aching for the yield
That You will harvest from this hurt

Abide in me
Let these branches bear You fruit
Abide in me, Lord
As I abide in You

So I kneel
At the bright edge of the garden
At the golden edge of dawn
At the glowing edge of spring
When the winter's edge is gone

And I can see the color green
I can hear the sower's song

Abide in me
Let these branches bear You fruit
Abide in me, Lord
Let Your word take root
Remove in me
The branch that bears no fruit
And move in me, Lord
As I abide in You

As the rain and the snow fall
Down from the sky
And they don't return but they water the earth and
bring they forth life
Giving seed to the sower, bread for the hunger
So shall the word of the Lord be with a sound like

thunder
And it will not return, it will not return void
We shall be led in peace
And go out with joy
And the hills before us
Will raise their voices
And the trees of the field will clap their hands as
the land rejoices
And instead of the thorn now
The cypress towers
And instead of the briar the myrtle blooms with a
thousand flowers
And it will make a name
Make a name for our God
A sign everlasting that will never be cut off
As the earth brings forth sprouts from the seed
What is sown in the garden grows into a mighty
tree

So the Lord plants justice, justice and praise
To rise before the nations till the end of days

As the rain and the snow fall
Down from the sky
And they don't return but they water the earth and
they bring forth life
Giving seed to the sower, and bread for the hunger
So shall the word of the Lord be with a sound like
thunder
And it will not return, it will not return void
It will not return, it will not return void
It will not return, it will not return void
We shall be led in peace
And go out with joy

And the sower leads us
And the sower leads us
And the sower leads us

Call to Worship

L: God scatters the seeds of reconciliation and love, and waits....

P: So much of it lands on flat pathways or rocky roads and won't take root....

L: God scatters the seeds of healing and hope, and waits....

P: Shallowness and fear claim the seeds and they cannot live.

L: God scatters the seeds of redemption and peace, and waits....

P: These are the places of deep growth where the seed will cast down strong roots.

L: Welcome this day to a seed-scattering station!

P: May our hearts be the rich soil in which God's love takes root. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

O God, we come to You with expectation, hungry for an encounter with You, eager to hear Your Word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit. May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives, and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds.

O God, today we lift up to you our worries, our anxieties and concerns that we have been carrying around and we ask you to soothe our weary souls and give us peace and rest. Give us strength and courage as we navigate our way through these uncertain times. Guide and direct our words and actions to be more like Jesus.

God, in this time we need you.

God you know the names of those on our hearts and their needs. Those who are in need of your healing love; for all who are sick, who are hospitalized, who have received a life changing diagnosis, who mourn, who are lost and alone. Help us to be agents of healing and mercy, of peace, justice, hope and love.

God, in this time we need you.

For all those who are caring for the sick and hospitalized, we ask that you continue to be present with them, guiding and directing all they do and giving them all the wisdom, they need. Surround family and friends who are unable to be with their loved ones during this time, with your loving presence and peace.

God, in this time we need you.

Lord Jesus, as you have welcomed us regardless of our faults and failings, let us also be a welcoming presence to all in your name. We ask all of this of you, O God, knowing that you are our hope and our salvation, a very present help in times of trouble, and the One whose purpose is to grant a new and abundant life to us and our world. Praise be to your name. Amen.

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.

Song of Preparation

Surely, the Presence of the Lord – No. 328

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place

I can feel His mighty power and His grace

I can hear the brush of angel's wings

I see glory on each face

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place

Words of Preparation

O God, open our hearts and minds and souls to hear your word as if for the first time. Help us experience anew the surprise and joy that your presence in the word can bring us.

Scripture – Matthew 13:1-9 (Common English Bible)

That day Jesus went out of the house and sat down beside the lake. ²Such large crowds gathered around him that he climbed into a boat and sat down. The whole crowd was standing on the shore.

³He said many things to them in parables: "A farmer went out to scatter seed. ⁴As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path, and birds came and ate it. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. ⁶But when the sun came up, it scorched the plants, and they dried up because they had no roots. ⁷Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked them. ⁸Other seed fell on good soil and bore fruit, in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one. ⁹Everyone who has ears should pay attention."

Message

"Sowing Seeds"

Pastor Jill

Prayer of Confession

The Divine Gardener cannot sow seeds of justice and peace where there is nothing but hearts of dry, hard rocks. We confess that our hearts may need tilling and the digging out of the deeply rooted sins that crowd out seedlings planted with divine compassion. God of steadfast love, you change bitter tears of remorseful hearts with raindrops of mercy, now let us germinate a new life, growing with integrity! God of steadfast love, you change the cold shame of contrite hearts with sunrays of mercy now let us sprout a new life, growing with honesty! God of steadfast love, you change the stony edges of repentant hearts into landscapes of mercy, now let us branch out into new life, growing with generosity! Amen.

And now let us confess our own sins silently.

Words of Assurance

Divine Gardener, you tend us in steadfast love, Unending mercies, and eternal faithfulness; you cultivate true friendship with you through boundless forgiveness. In Christ, this faithful love is planted in our hearts. Gathered as your community of believers, our family of faith, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we can now produce forgiveness for each other as we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Song

“Doxology/God of the Breakthrough” Crossroads Music

<https://youtu.be/oOOHj8ivL94>

CCLI: #2467810

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Miracle Maker
Our hope and our Savior
You haven't failed us yet
You haven't failed us yet

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above
Ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above
Ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

We've nowhere else to go
We've nowhere else to turn
We're kneeling at Your door
Singing come near come here
We need Your kingdom now
Exchange it for our doubt
We're kneeling at Your door
Singing come near come here

God of the breakthrough
Your promises stand true
You haven't failed us yet
You haven't failed us yet
Miracle Maker
Our hope and our Savior
You haven't failed us yet
You haven't failed us yet

Come near come here

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Come near

Praise Him all creatures here below

God of the breakthrough
Your promises stand true
You haven't failed us yet
You haven't failed us yet

Praise Him above

Ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Thank you for joining me for our Sunday worship service.

I hope you have a glorious day filled with God's blessings and the hope of a beautiful tomorrow.

Blessing

As you have received the seeds of faith and hope; go now into God's world to scatter the seeds of reconciliation and peace, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. AMEN.