

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SOMERVILLE

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

Worship 10 AM

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/986500515>

Phone-in number: 1 929 436 2866... Meeting ID: 986 500 515

Password: 002367



Prelude *"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"* *Roger C. Wilson*

Candle Lighting

Greeting

*Call to Worship

Happy are the people

Who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that they follow, or sit in the seat of people who make fun of others.

Their delight is in the law of the Lord,

And they meditate on God's law day and night.

The Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

But the way of the wicked will perish.

*Hymn *"Bring Many Names"*

TFSW #2047

Bring many names, beautiful and good,

celebrate, in parable and story,

holiness in glory, living, loving God.

Hail and Hosanna! bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day,

planning all the wonders of creation,

setting each equation genius at play:

Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Old, aching God, gray with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

*Invocation

God of the first and the last, give us strength of mind that we might walk the path of obedience and discipleship without wasting our time thinking about who is more important. Instead, guide our thoughts and emotions that we may be like children, totally dependent on you, welcoming all with hospitality and love. In the name of Jesus we pray, **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness. We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy. You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict. Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Words of Assurance

Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but the people who fear the Lord are to be praised. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and can live in peace.

Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Your Word is our wisdom; it gives us insight, strength, and courage. Open our hearts and our minds on this day that we might receive what you want to give. Speak, Lord! Your people listen! **Amen.**

Scripture Lessons James 3:13-4:3 pew Bible page 1102
 Mark 9:30-37 pew Bible page 920

*Hymn *“As the Deer”* TFWS #2025

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone will my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.

Sermon *“We Make the Road by Walking”*

Offertory Prayer

We have been made capable of being good stewards of what God has given us. Let us, with gratitude in our hearts, give from what has been given to us, by grace.

Offering (online giving through Zelle: givingtofumc@gmail.com or you can simply mail your donation check, or drop off it off in the church's side-door mail slot)

*Doxology *“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.**

Joys and Concerns

Interlude "A Voice of Calm"

Dennis Eliot

Pastoral Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

(remembering God's acts of mercy and salvation...)

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest....

(remembering Jesus and that first communion...)

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer
ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union
with Christ's offering for us. As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(The words of consecration, praising the Holy Spirit and the Trinity...)

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Musical Response *"Thank You, Lord"* *Benton Price*

Prayer after Receiving

Thank you, merciful God, for the bounty of your creation — for the gifts of the field and vine that nourish our bodies, souls and hearts. Sustained by this meal and the assurance of your grace through our Lord, Jesus Christ, may our lives reflect your presence. Amen.

*Hymn "United By Thy Grace" *UMH #561*

Jesus, united by thy grace and each to each endeared,
with confidence we seek thy face and know our prayer is heard.

Help us to help each other, Lord, each other's cross to bear;
let all their friendly aid afford, and feel each other's care.

Up unto thee, our living Head, let us in all things grow;
till thou hast made us free indeed and spotless here below.

Touched by the lodestone of thy love, let all our hearts agree,
and ever toward each other move, and ever move toward thee.

To thee, inseparably joined, let all our spirits cleave;
O may we all the loving mind that was in thee receive.

This is the bond of perfectness, thy spotless charity;
O let us, still we pray, possess the mind that was in thee

*Benediction

May God who watches over all the righteous give you the gifts needed to be a capable servant. May Jesus Christ, who welcomes everyone, give you the loving heart of a child so that you can welcome others unconditionally. May the Holy Spirit, who gives us the understanding we need to love God and to love others, give us unselfish and generous hearts, to heal relationships and live in peace.

*Postlude “Meditation on “St. Agnes””

Steven Scott



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