

Pentecost

July 26, 2020

WELCOME & LIFE IN THE CHURCH

- 9th Sunday of Pentecost

Worship - When and How

Looking to try some in person gatherings in August. Will continue to do livestream. At all events all attendees and participants would be masked and at least 6 feet apart. You would be bringing your own lawn chairs or blankets to sit on the grass. If you are interested in being a part of this or helping sign people in, please email me or Marion as soon as possible.

We will continue streamed services, and we hope they will continue to improve in content and quality. If you would like to be a part of helping with our services, or if you have any gifts of technology, production, etc... please reach out and let us know!

Your safety and the lives of your loved ones and our neighbors is our primary concern, so we will take our time and do what we need to do to ensure our worship continues in the safest manner possible.

But never forget, the church is not a building, it is not a service, it is not the music or the words - You are the church. You bring it with you -in all that you do. We'll work on *that* piece of our faith until we can again meet in our accustomed way.

Christmas in July...

Today we are celebrating a favorite camp tradition of mine and celebrating Christmas in July. That's right. I know some of you will think this crazy, but play along and let's have some fun with it. With my new technological skills, I was able to find and retrieve the Lessons and Carols worship service that was never posted to our livestream page, so you can check that out. So, get in the holiday spirit, just for this week, and let's celebrate!

Conversations About Race and Racism

I would like to hold a book group via Zoom to go deeper into how we can participate in challenging racism in our own lives. If you are interested in being part of this group/conversation, please email me at abbiehuff@germondschurch.org.

Pledging & Giving

Thank you to all who continue to send in pledges. Thanks to you we are doing ok, and hope to continue to do ministry in the community. Marion can give you an update on where you are with your current pledge.

Germonds Cemetery & Home Visits

Take a walk in the Germonds cemetery anytime, it is beautiful. A good place for socially distanced walks. Also, I am happy to come to you and we can sit outside on a stoop or in a yard and visit - wearing masks or staying very far apart. I'm available, 267-664-3180.

Worship Service

PRELUDE

The Bells of Christmas

INTROIT

God Welcomes All

Germonds Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Richard & Sandy Shaefer

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Abbie Huff

Holy God. You are moving in our midst, and yet most of the time we are blind to what you are doing. You build bridges between the here and now and the hope of what is yet to come, and yet we cannot see it. You are in a flurry of activity at all times, illuminating, guiding, encouraging, uplifting, and yet we too often just ignore your efforts. Open our eyes Lord. Tune us to your vision and activity. Allow us to notice the holy places all around us. Sharpen our senses to your presence in the everyday. When we wake and when we sleep, when we eat and when we work or play, you are with us and disrupt our lives with joy and wonder. It is an odd time of year to be remembering Christmas. It feels out of season. And yet, you break into our reality all year round. You take our lives and like Mary and Joseph, you invite us to let you turn them upside down. Because it is worth it when you do. We are transformed and the world is transformed when you do. Be with us now in this upside down season, now and always. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Richard Shaefer

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life,^[a] and the life was the light

of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 28:10-19a

10 Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. 11 He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. 12 And he dreamed that there was a ladder[a] set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 And the Lord stood beside him[b] and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; 14 and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed[c] in you and in your offspring. 15 Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” 16 Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” 17 And he was

afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

18 So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

19 He called that place Bethel;

MESSAGE

“Holy Places Everywhere”

Rev. Abbie Huff

ANTHEM

Pat Singer

Christmas Medley: O Come All Ye Faithful, Silent Night, Joy to the World

Benediction

May the love of God, the Peace of Jesus Christ and the *Power* of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on Hark the Herald Angels Sing Pat Singer

To stay in the Christmas spirit, watch last year's Lessons and Carols by clicking the link below.

<https://livestream.com/germondschurch/gpcworship/videos/199674913>