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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

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# July 9th, 2023 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Acts Worship Series: Week Three

Welcome to the United Methodist Church of Summit! We invite you to join us on a journey of faith, worshiping and serving God.

PRELUDE

"On Eagle's Wings"

for Trumpet and Organ

#### **GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Alison Johnson

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: God calls us to boldly proclaim the Good News of

the resurrection.

People: We gather as siblings in Christ.

Leader: We gather to share our faith and to worship God. **People: Come Holy Spirit**, fill this sacred space with

your presence!

\*CENTERING PRAYER: (in unison)

Alison Johnson

God of resurrection power, we gather this morning as a community of believers. We come with joy in our hearts. Strengthen us and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we may boldly proclaim to the world the gift of your redeeming grace. Revive us with your divine power so that we may shout the Good News "love is victorious over death"! May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming overcome the obstacles of this world that keep others from your love. Open our hearts we pray, in the name of Jesus, Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN: (please remain standing as you are able)

"My Hope Is Built"

UMH #368

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Laura Steele

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Beverly Alexis** 

SCRIPTURE: Alison Johnson

#### New Testament: Acts 4:1-20 (NRSV)

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, much annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is the resurrection of the dead. So they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who heard the word believed, and they numbered about five thousand.

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. They said. "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard." This is the Word of God, for the people of God:

People: Thanks be to God.

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION: (please rise as you are able)

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"(sung 3x) TFWS#2086

**SERMON:** Acts Week Three: Holy Boldness

Rev. Laura Steele

#### **OFFERING**

#### MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Voluntary on "The Solid Rock" William Teubner, Trumpet

\*DOXOLOGY (please rise as you are able)

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #94

\*CLOSING HYMN: (please rise as you are able)

"Lord. Whose Love Through Humble Service" UMH#582

#### \*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Variations on "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand"

\*Please rise in body or spirit as you are able Please join us after service for our end of year picnic!

#### In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Dillan, Anabelle, Guy Brasteid, Family of Betty Zabrucky, family of Norma Dowe, the Hasem family, Tamisha Ramsay, Janet Skakum, Jessica, the Miles family, the Menendez and Aguilera family, Lisa Wood, Mike (MaryEllen DeJohn's brother), family of Linda Dawson, Carmel Christensen, John Jennings, Chris Zotti and son Jack, gun violence in America and Bob Reed

#### This Week's Schedule

Sunday, July 9:

9:30am-10:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary) 10:00am-10:30am Summer Choir (Sanctuary)

10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship (Sanctuary)

11:30am-12:30pm Coffee Hour (Social Hall) 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Monday, July 10:

7:00pm-9:00pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal(Social Hall)

7:45pm-9:30pm Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room and Chapel)

Tuesday, July 11:

10:00am-3:00pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio) 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Wednesday, July 12:

7:15pm-9:15pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

Thursday, July 13

10:00am-11:30am Green Team Meeting

Friday, July 14:

9:00am-12:00pm Music Together (Social Hall) 11:00am-12:00pm Christian Yoga (Chapel) 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Saturday, July 15:

9:00am-12:00pm Music Together (Chapel)

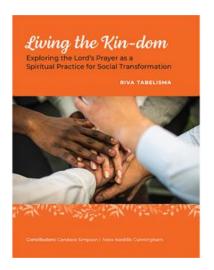
12:00pm-2:00pm Instrumental Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 2:00pm-11:00pm EMC Shalom (Fellowship Room)

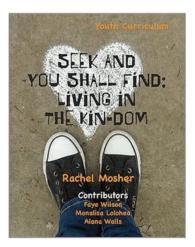


#### Children, Youth, and Families Update

Please note the Nursery, Sunday School, and Youth Group programming will be taking a break for the summer. Children are invited to remain in worship and praise God together.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**





#### Mission U to explore Living the Kin-dom

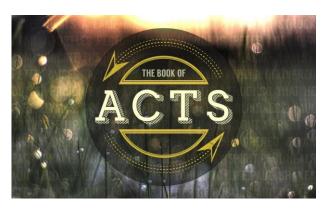
**GNJ's United Women in Faith** (UWF) will offer Mission U in two sessions during July—first onsite and then online. With the theme "Living the Kin-dom," attendees will study the Lord's Prayer using the original Aramaic words of Jesus and discover a fresh vision for those seeking to be in mission today. The sessions will be held inperson July 14-15, at Centenary University's Lackland Center in Hackettstown, and then virtually via Zoom July 21-22. Visit the <a href="https://gnjumw.org">https://gnjumw.org</a> to learn more.



#### New! Christian Yoga Classes Fridays @ 11AM

Join us Friday mornings at 11AM as Pastor Laura leads a new, Christian Yoga class in the Chapel. All levels are welcome, no previous experience necessary. Suggested donation of \$10 per class. Please see Pastor Laura for more information or email:

pastor@umcsummit.org



### Summer Worship Series: The Book of Acts June 25<sup>th</sup> – August 27<sup>th</sup>

The combination of God's purpose, power, and presence is vital to our life as a church. Throughout the New Testament Book of Acts, we find the themes of mission, prayer, discipleship, and evangelism that help us to wrap our minds around a larger expression of God's mission here on earth. We see how the Holy Spirit empowers the early church to overcome hard times, persecution, turmoil, and pressure. How can we, as the church, live into the pressures of our times using the example of the Apostles? Join us this summer as we explore the world of the Book of Acts.



## Book of Acts Summer Reading Challenge!

This summer, Pastor Laura is challenging the congregation to read through the Book of Acts. The Book of Acts has 28 chapters, and with 14 weeks until

Labor Day, your challenge is to read two chapters a week.

#### **Green Team Update**

Good News! In order to reduce waste The Green Team will begin providing reusable coffee mugs and drinking glasses during coffee hour effective July 2nd. Please consider helping us improve our



environmental stewardship, one coffee cup at a time.



# School Supply Drive June 11<sup>th</sup>-August 20<sup>th</sup> Our annual Jersey Cares School Supply Drive begins next Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Each year, thousands of New Jersey children attend their first day of school without basic educational tools such as

backpacks, notebooks, and calculators. These under-resourced children struggle to succeed academically. Jersey Cares works with dozens of schools, children's shelters, and community centers with the goal that no children in New Jersey will have to experience a first day of school without these basic necessities. With your help we can bridge the gap between disadvantage and academic success.

Items ACCEPTED for the School Supply Drive include: Backpacks (may be new OR gently used), 1, 3, and 5 Subject Notebooks, Composition Notebooks, 2-Pocket Folders, Pencil Cases, #2 Pencils, Pencil Sharpeners, Erasers, Pens, Hi-lighters Crayons, Washable Markers, and Colored Pencils, Book Covers, Calculators, Child Safety Scissors, Glue, Rulers (12"), Headphones, Visa or Amazon Gift Cards. Please bring in items and place them in the bins at the back and/or front of the sanctuary. Or, you can drop off/send items to the church office Monday-Friday from 9AM-1PM.



Please note our Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Bell Choir, and Contemporary Ensembles will be taking a break for summer. Check back in September for upcoming schedules. If you're interested in joining our informal Summer Choir, please see Director of Music Joanne Tuebner-Prussak. This choir rehearses at 10AM each Sunday during the summer months.