

Worship Service - *“Humble Yourself in the Sight of the Lord”*

23rd Sunday in Pentecost, Year A,

5th November, 2023

Guest Pastor - Carol Mason

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 NSRV / Matthew 23:1-12 NSRV

Prelude

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Opening Music (Lyric Video) [Humble Yourself](#)

Kelly Willard

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Welcome / Announcements

Pass the Peace

Opening Hymn [I am Weak and Need Thy Strength](#) 553

Words and Music by Doris Akers Posted on Youtube by 1dorthea1

Call to Worship

One: Eternal God, Before you the generations pass. Your character is love, Your way is compassion, Your name is everlasting. Today we remember those who have lived, labored, and loved among us. Because of their lives, we know better how to live. Because of their suffering, we find greater strength. Because of their death, we better understand What is important in life.

All: **We sorrow, but not as those who have no hope. We grieve, but not as those who center their thoughts on death. We sense loneliness, but not as those who are left alone. We thank you God, that even in separation, We experience love, peace, and hope.**

One: We praise you, God, For light which arises out of darkness, For comfort which is constant in the midst of confusion, For hope which springs out of sorrow.

All: We thank you, God, for sending a Savior who says: "I am the resurrection and the life; those who believe in me shall never die."

Invocation

O God, Grant us grace to affirm in life, as in death, That we are yours. Our help is in you. Our hope is in your promise, Through Jesus Christ, our loving Lord. AMEN

Epistle Reading - 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 NSRV

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers.

As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

A Time of Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by Carol Mason

Hymn

[Will You Let Me Be Your Servant](#) 307

Posted by University Mennonite Church

Gospel Reading - Matthew 23:1-12 NSRV

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples,

‘The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat;

therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach.

They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.

They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long.

They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues,

and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have people call them rabbi.

But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.

And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.

Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.

The greatest among you will be your servant.

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Message - *Humble Yourself in the Sight of the Lord*

Guest Preacher Carol Mason

Call to Serve

Generous God, You gave us life; Now we give our lives back to you. We present ourselves: Our work and play, Our joys and sorrows, Our thoughts and deeds, Our gifts and resources, To be used by you For the sake of all people everywhere.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord AMEN

