

WILLMAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Worship for the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Confirmation and Baptism
9:30 AM October 31, 2021

WELCOME

William Sordahl, Liturgist

HYMN

God of Wonders

W&S 3034

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 119

Leader: Those whose way is blameless —
who walk in the Lord's Instruction — are truly happy!

**All: Those who guard God's laws are truly happy!
They seek God with all their hearts.**

Leader: God, you have ordered that your decrees should be kept most carefully.
How I wish my ways were strong when it comes to keeping your statutes!

All: Then I wouldn't be ashamed when I examine all your commandments.

Leader: I will give thanks to you with a heart that does right
as I learn your righteous rules.

All: I will keep your statutes. Please don't leave me all alone!

HYMN

The Gift of Love

UMH 408

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Now these are the commandments, the regulations, and the case laws that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you to follow in the land you are entering to possess, so that you will fear the Lord your God by keeping all his regulations and his commandments that I am commanding you—both you and your sons and daughters—all the days of your life and so that you will lengthen your life. Listen to them, Israel! Follow them carefully so that things will go well for you and so that you will continue to multiply exactly as the Lord, your ancestors' God, promised you, in a land full of milk and honey.

Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. Write them on your house's doorframes and on your city's gates.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:11-14

But Christ has appeared as the high priest of the good things that have happened. He passed through the greater and more perfect meeting tent, which isn't made by human hands (that is, it's not a part of this world). He entered the holy of holies once for all by his own blood, not by the blood of goats or calves, securing our deliverance for all time. If the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of cows made spiritually contaminated people holy and clean, how much more will the blood of Jesus wash our consciences clean from dead works in order to serve the living God? He offered himself to God through the eternal Spirit as a sacrifice without any flaw.

MESSAGE

Getting Closer to the Kingdom
Mark 12:28-34

Pastor Jo Anne

One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Jesus replied, "The most important one is Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, You will love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these."

The legal expert said to him, "Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one's strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices."

When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, "You aren't far from God's kingdom." After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GIVE & SERVE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lead Me, Lord

Jon & Linda Saunders

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Presentation of Maya Nelson, Candidate for Baptism
Philippians 4:13

Melany Souther

Presentation of Amelia Hettver, Candidate for Confirmation
James 1:5

Jon Saunders

Presentation of Amber Ronning, Candidate for Confirmation
Psalm 46:1

Joyce Ronning

RENUNCIATION OF SIN & PROFESSION OF FAITH

UMH 34-35

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Amber, Amelia, and Maya now before you in your care?

PEOPLE: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Amber, Amelia, and Maya with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grown in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

ALL: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third

day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

ALL: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

HYMN Baptized in Water FWS 2248

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER UMH 36

BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION of Maya Nelson
daughter of Nichole Klaassen & Justen Nelson
Taylor and Tyler Henkelman, godparents

RESPONSE: You Have Put On Christ UMH 609

CONFIRMATION of Amelia Hettver,
daughter of Kirby & Amanda Hettver

RESPONSE: You Have Put On Christ UMH 609

CONFIRMATION of Amber Ronning,
daughter of Dan Ronning and Sarah Kavanaugh

RESPONSE: You Have Put On Christ UMH 609

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH UMH 38

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME UMH 38

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, Praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your pleasure and service. And now, O glorious and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

HYMN I Was There To Hear Your Borne Cry FWS 2051

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE