

NORTHWOOD UMC ONLINE WORSHIP – July 12, 2020

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK – Matthew 13:23

²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

WELCOME/CHECKING IN

Where do you... see God? Need God? Feel Joy? Feel Gratitude?

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP –

L: God scatters the seeds of reconciliation and love, and waits....

P: So much of it lands on flat pathways or rocky roads and won't take root....

L: God scatters the seeds of healing and hope, and waits...

P: Shallowness and fear claim the seeds and they cannot live.

L: God scatters the seeds of redemption and peace, and waits...

A: These are the places of deep growth where the seed will cast down strong roots.

May our hearts be the rich soil in which God's love takes root. AMEN.

Ministries Matter

RESPONSIVE GATHERING PRAYER

L: Your word is a lamp to my feet, Lord.

P: Your word is a light to my path.

L: Though the world around me tosses and tumbles,

P: I hold fast to you.

L: Though I have doubts and worries and I wonder,

P: I hold fast to you.

L: Your stories and your songs, O Lord-

P: They comfort me.

L: Your will and your way, O Lord-

P: They nudge me along.

L: Your presence and your promise, O Lord-

P: They give me hope.

L: Your world is my heritage and my heart.

P: And I will turn toward you forever.

L: I will hold fast to you.

A: And I will sing praises to your name! AMEN.

Adapted from Psalm 119:105-112. Written by The Rev. Erin Counihan, pastor Oak Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) in St. Louis, MO. Posted on RevGalBlogPals.

KINGDOM TIME

HYMN – “Thy Word Is a Lamp” UMH #601 vs. 1,2

SPECIAL MUSIC – “Canon in D” Norton Park piano/keyboard trio
Janet Nilsen, Bonnie Ritchie, Kathy Moland

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
¹⁰⁶ I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.
¹⁰⁷ I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.
¹⁰⁸ Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.
¹⁰⁹ I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
¹¹¹ Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹² I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Parable of the Sower

¹³ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears^[a] listen!"

The Parable of the Sower Explained

¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.^[a] ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

MESSAGE- "The Seeds We Sow, Part II"

INVITATION TO GIVE TO THE LIVING CHRIST, OURSELVES, OUR LOVE AND OUR GIFTS

Presentation of our Gifts and Offerings:

Mail your offering to: **Northwood UMC, P.O. Box 295, Esko, MN 55733**

DOXOLOGY – “Give Thanks” FWS #2036

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – UMH #883

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN – “For the Beauty of the Earth” UMH #92 vs. 1,2,3,4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION/DISMISSAL

“The Trees of the Field” FWS #2279