



St. Andrews United Methodist Church

September 15, 2024

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Centering – Prepare for Worship

Seek the Spirit's Presence

Passing the Peace



Announcements

Today: We welcome Rev. Dr. Epeli Taungapeau

Tuesday: Bible Study meets via Zoom, 7pm

Friday: Second Harvest Food Distribution, 3:30-6PM

Call to Worship, Psalm 19

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

People: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

People: yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

(continues)

Call to Worship, Psalm 19

Leader: which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

People: Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat.

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

People: the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

Leader: the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

(continues)

Call to Worship, Psalm 19

People: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Leader: Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

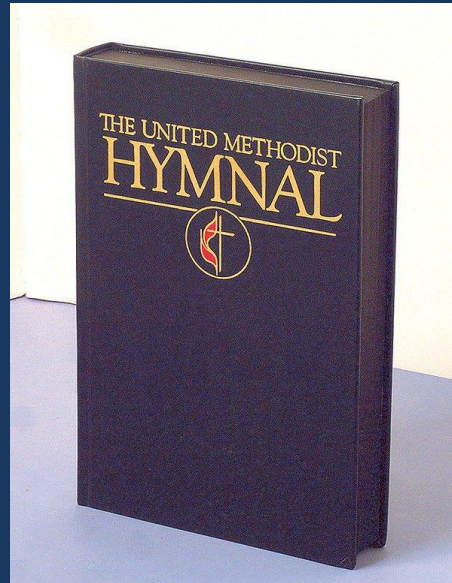
People: But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

Leader: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.

Everyone: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Opening Hymn, # 64

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”





Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading: James 3: 1-12

1. Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will face stricter judgment.
2. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.
3. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies.
4. Or look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.
5. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!
6. And the tongue is a fire. (continues)

Scripture Reading: James 3: 1-12

The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue - a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth comes a blessing and a cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with soft, white and yellow clouds. A single bird is captured in flight, silhouetted against the bright sun. The water is a deep blue with gentle ripples.

Musical Interlude

Gospel Reading: Mark 8: 27-38

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

(continues)

Gospel Reading: Mark 8: 27-38

³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸

Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday School begins



SHARING OF PRAYERS & CONCERNS

WE REPLY TO EACH CONCERN WITH
*"Lord, in your mercies,
hear our Prayers"*

Silent Prayer



Pastoral Prayer

followed by the
Lords Prayer (unison)

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen!*



Prayer Response (unison singing)

Lord, listen to your children praying,

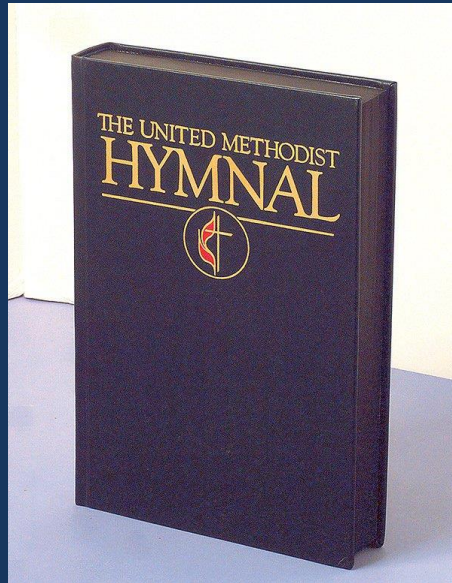
Lord, send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying,

send us love, send us power, send us grace.

(repeat)

Hymn, #77
“Hos Great Thou Art”



Today's Message

Special Guest:

Rev. Dr. Epeli Taungapeau





Contributions can be made payable to St. Andrews UMC and mailed to either the church 4111 Alma St. Palo Alto CA 94306 or to the Financial Secretary Jeanette Cowan, home address is 769 Rustic Lane, Mountain View, CA 94040



Response: Hymn Tune No. 95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Love for whom our work is done;
Creator, Word and Spirit One.*

AMEN

Blessing the offering



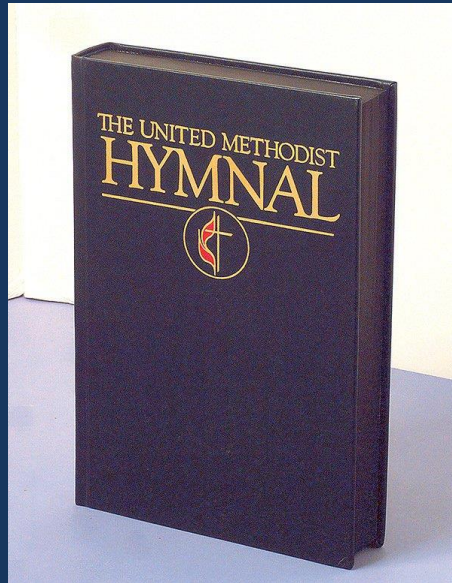
What God is doing in your life?
Sharing our Joys & Thanksgiving

A time to share with us how God has blessed you.

We reply to each one's joys with *"Thanks be to God!"*

Prayer of Gratitude

Closing Hymn, # 338
“Where He Leads Me”



Benediction



Closing song, Hymn 665

“Go Now in Peace”



¹ Go now in peace. Go now in peace.

² May the love of God surround you

³ everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Same time, same place next week.