Unity Moravian Church July 26, 2020 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Children's Celebration Sunday

The Congregation Gathers for Worship

Welcome and Call to Worship

Pastor Barry Foster

Prelude "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

Donna Shore

arr. D. Hustad

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed

Liturgy Many Colors, One Church

Pastor Barry

Creative God, You are amazing! From the beautiful streaks of pink and purple across the morning sky to the black blanket of expanse that provides the perfect backdrop for the shining stars, You fill our days with color. You love us enough to create even us, human people, with the creative colors that You invented. Just like Jacob who loved his son Joseph and showed him love by giving him a cloak made up of many wonderful colors, You show us Your love by giving us many wonderful things in our favorite colors.

God, we thank you for all the colors.

For juicy tomatoes ripe from summer vines. For fresh strawberries, warm from the sun in the fields. For the top of the chicken's head, his pointy comb. For other creatures that crawl in the sea, for pinching lobsters and creeping crabs. For the blazing leaves in autumn. For cherries and raspberries and cranberries. For tropical birds like the scarlet macaw. For ladybugs and roses and poinsettias at Christmas time. For watermelon and slithery corn snakes and for radishes.

We thank you for the color red.

For the big, wide, sky. For the bubbly ocean full of wonderful creatures. For the proud peacock who struts her exotic feathers. For hyacinths and asters and hydrangeas that bloom in the springtime. For the back feathers on the hawking blue jay. For fields of beautiful morning glories. For the little feathers of the eastern bluebirds that perch in their small houses. For blueberries. For crystal clear, shimmering water that brings Life to so many things.

We thank you for the color blue.

For goldfish. For all the yummy citrus fruits. For cuties. For speckled giraffes and majestic lions and their long manes. For crunchy carrots. For the backs of fluttery monarch butterflies. For autumn pumpkins and squashes and leaves. For bananas and lemons and buzzing bees and daffodils and little baby chickens.

We thank you for the colors orange and yellow.

For grass, lettuce, broccoli, and pickles. For alligators, four leaf clovers, frogs, and little crawling bugs. For avocados, celery, tree leaves, and zucchini. For turtles and giant lunar moths and iguanas.

We thank you for the color green.

God, for all the colors and their shades. For purple, and pink and fuschia and magenta. And for black and brown and chocolate and olive. For snow's whiteness and for the dark night that helps us to sleep,

We thank you for our favorite colors.

People come in colors too, each one precious in God's view,

Jesus said to love each other,

treat each person like a brother,

sisters, brothers, all are we,

all in God's great family!

How can we best find our way, be His little lambs today?

Listen for your name, He's calling,

Asking you to help those falling.

Sisters, brothers, all are we,

all in God's great family!

Creative God, we know that sometimes we have not treated your colors rightly. We have selfishly chosen one color above another. We have insisted on having only the color we choose and no other. We have treated certain colors like they are not good enough. When we have done this, God, we are so very sorry. Lord, forgive us. When we have treated people with less respect than we should, When we have neglected to see the hurt we have done, When we forget that we are all given the world's special colors by You,

Lord forgive us.

When we don't take care of the earth as we should, or forget to protect the beautiful colors of Nature, When we allow money or convenience to get in the way of our protecting the animals, plants and atmosphere of the world You created,

Lord forgive us.

Creative God, help us to be thankful and appreciative of the colors You created in our world, and in us. Help us to see the beautiful shades of color as proof of the Love that You have for all humankind, and for the earth. Help us to protect the animals, plants and atmosphere of the world You created.

Help us to make right the times when we or others neglect to see the hurt done to people of color.

Help us to treat all people with respect and love. Help us to treat ourselves with respect and love.

We are sorry for all of the things we have done wrong. We thank you for forgiving us, for loving us, and for giving us a beautiful world of color to protect and enjoy.

Amen.

Jesus guides us every day, calls on us to lead the way.

When there's hurt and controversy,

Use your kindness, healing, mercy

Sisters, brothers, all are we,

All in God's great family!

Bible Presentations for Children		Pastor Barry
The Reading of God's Word	Psalm 128	Sophie Garcia
Special song of Faith	"The B-I-B-L-E"	Children of our Church Family (pre-recorded)
The Reading of God's Word	The Text for Today Matthew 13:44-46	Harper O'Brien (pre-recorded)
Message	"Our Faith is Enough" Matthew 13:31-33	Dana Myers
Silent Reflection		
Interlude	"The Gift of Love" arr. J. Carter	Donna Shore

Our Response to God

Worship by Giving - Online giving is available by visiting: https://mmfa.info/giving-portal

Concerns and Joys for the Community, Nation and World

Pastor Foster

A Prayer of Intercession for Children

Dana Myers

We pray to the Lord for all children.

For the littlest child in her mother's womb:

that in her life we may see the infinite love of God;

For the curious toddler in his booster seat

that we might lead him to what is holy and true;

For the elementary student in her classroom

that she might learn of the wisdom and compassion of God;

For the middle schooler in the midst of change

That she might learn to love each carefully-crafted part of herself;

For the high school student on the brink of independence

That his life might prove to be a reflection of the peace and love of Christ;

For the abused, neglected, hungry, and orphaned children of our world

That our work and prayers might liberate them from their bondage and pain.

We pray to the Lord for all children.

Amen.

Prayer Response

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

Donna Shore

Hear our prayer, O Lord; hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace. Amen.

Following Our Lamb Into the World

Ministry Opportunities Pastor Barry/Dana

Closing Hymn "Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice" Donna Shore

Jesus makes my heart rejoice,
I'm his sheep and know his voice;
He's a Shepherd, kind and gracious,
And his pastures are delicious;
Constant love to me he shows, yea, my very name he knows.

Trusting his mild staff always,
I go in and out in peace;
He will feed me with the treasure
Of his grace in richest measure;
When athirst to him I cry,
Living water he'll supply.

Should not I for gladness leap,
Led by Jesus as his sheep?
For when these blessed days are over
To the arms of my dear Savior
I shall be conveyed to rest.
Amen, yea, my lot is blessed.

Benediction May God bless you and protect you.

Dana Myers

May God show you favor and be gracious to you. May God show you kindness and grant you peace.

Amen.

Postlude "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Donna Shore

arr. M. Turner

Staff

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Believers Music Leaders: Ruth Burcaw and Randy Noftle

Watchword Text for the Year

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. II Corinthians 4:15

In essentials UNITY, in non-essentials, LIBERTY, in all things, LOVE! UnityMC@UnityMoravianChurch.org
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People Come in Colors Too





