



Sharon United Methodist Church

Rev. Susan C. Lindblade, Pastor

Sunday, September 3, 2023 – 11:00 AM

“Take Your Candle, Go Light Your World”



Bringing in the Light of Christ

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: All who are thirsty and all who are hungry, come! Eat, drink and be filled;
Come! Feast at the table of God without money and without cost;
Come and receive freely the living water and the bread of Life!

**People: Our souls are thirsty, O God, and we come; our spirits hunger, O Lord, and we come;
Feed us, nourish us and strengthen us; satisfy us with real food, and real drink;
Prepare for us a table, that we may always be fed by your Hand. Amen**

*Hymn of Praise

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

CH 793

Scripture Reading

Psalms 107:8-9

Joyce Jagucki

Sharing our Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Anthem

“I’m Standing on the Solid Rock”

Choir

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

CH 552

Scripture Lesson

Luke 3:11; Matthew 9:35-36

Sermon

“Raising the Bar: The Purpose of Life is Giving It Away”

Celebration of Holy Communion

The Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Our lives are often marked by merriment, but beneath that looms our worry, our sorrow, our shame, our grief. Let us hand over all that to the One who offers us not condemnation but joy. In this moment as my mind wanders:

People: God, redirect my thoughts to you.

Pastor: In this week as I walk your path and sometimes stumble,

People: God, make your way clear.

Pastor: In our community where we sometimes remained silent,

People: God, open our lips to speak for justice.

Pastor: In this world where there is so much hurt, hurt that we sometimes cause,

People: God, make us agents of healing.

Pastor: In this time when there is much sorrow and grief,

People: God, send us out to be agents of hope and joy.

Pastor: In these moments of silence,

ALL: God, hear our prayers.

The Great Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Julie Cherry

Rev. Susan Lindblade

Anita Cotton

Joyce Jagucki

*Closing Hymn "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated" CH 597 (vs. 1,2,3,6)
 *Taking the Light of Christ into the World
 *Benediction
 *Sending Forth "Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart" On Screen/ CH 231
 *Postlude Anita Cotton

(*) Please stand as you are able

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS	
Sun. Sept. 3	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship 12:30 pm – Sunday Lunch Bunch (BJ's)
Mon. Sept. 4	Labor Day
Tues. Sept. 5	Happy Birthday to Sherryl Oliver
Thurs. Sept. 7	7:30 am – Seekers Bible Study (Facilitated by Jeanne Murray) 6:00 pm – Choir Practice
Sat. Sept. 9	Happy Anniversary to Sandy & Jan Eanes
Sun. Sept. 10	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship

WORSHIP TEAMS
SEPTEMBER 3
Acolyte: Julie Cherry Greeters: Joyce Jagucki & Jan Eanes Worship Leader: Joyce Jagucki Ushers: Jeanne Murray & Deb Chambers Flowers: OPEN Counters: Jeanne Murray & Danielle Skinner Trustee: Anita Cotton
SEPTEMBER 10
Acolyte: Ken Edgar Greeters: Marshall & Julie Cherry Worship Leader: Jan Edgar Ushers: Marshall & Julie Cherry Flowers: OPEN Counters: Sylvia Kirk & Joyce Jagucki Trustee: Anita Cotton

UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Pastor's Discretionary Fund** – As you receive communion, we invite you to pause at the altar for a time of prayer and if you feel led to share in this discretionary fund, please leave change or money at the altar rail.
- **Bible Study, Tuesday, September 12, 10:00 am** – We will resume our weekly Bible study with the Mayberry Bible Series on Tuesday, September 12. It will be a very different kind of bible study as we watch classic episodes of the Andy Griffith Show and use them as a backdrop for studying scripture. Our first lesson will be on Service in the episode of "The English Servant."
- **Sunday Fellowship Lunch, September 17, 12:15 pm** – Join us for a BBQ sandwich lunch and ice cream. What a great chance to get to fellowship and know each other better.
- **Women's Spiritual Life Retreat, Saturday, October 28, 9:00 am** – Have you signed up for the Women's Spiritual Life Retreat on Saturday, October 28 yet? The Rev. Dr. Anne Sims will be leading us in the study of "Finding Strength for the Journey: Lessons from Ruth, Miriam and Mary Magdalene." A light lunch will be provided. Come and enjoy a day of enrichment and fellowship with other women from our District. **Registration is needed to help us plan our day. You can register by accessing the registration form on our church website at www.sharon-umc.org.** If you need help with the registration, please contact Iris Meekins.
- **Mailboxes** – Please be sure to check the mailboxes in the Mail Center in the library. You never know when a card with your name on it may appear!
- **Red Wagon Ministry (located in the Mt. Zion parking lot)** – The Red Wagon ministry is in need of **Baby Diapers** and **Feminine Hygiene Products**. A collection container has been placed in the entryway.

FINANCES OF THE CHURCH		
2023 Monthly Budget \$6,463.50	Received Last Month (August) \$ 7,574.00	Received Last Sunday \$1,530.00

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