

Littleton United Methodist Church
July 19, 2009
The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
Service of the Word

Prelude

During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the friendship pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

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+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: The Lord has restored our fortunes

People: **Come, you thankful people, come; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Pastor: The Lord has brought us near, a people once far off.

People: **Come, you thankful people, come; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Pastor: The Lord has reconciled us in one body through the cross.

People: **Come, you thankful people, come; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Pastor: Now we all have access to God in one spirit;

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad.**

+Entrance Hymn #116

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

Prayer of the Day

Healing God, whose touch we have sought and known and whose compassion has surrounded us like a good shepherd's care for wandering sheep, show us once more the dimensions of wholeness that can restore us to faithful living and fruitful service. May we become reconcilers within and beyond the church. AMEN.

The First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Mike Herman, Lay Reader

After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you." That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

' "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. " 'The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 89:20-37



I have found David, my servant;
 with my holy oil I have anointed him;
**So that my hand shall ever abide with him,
 my arm also shall strengthen him.**
 The enemy shall not outwit him,
 the wicked shall not humble him.
**I will crush his foes before him
 and strike down those who hate him.**
 My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him,
 and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
**I will set his hand on the sea
 and his right hand on the rivers.**

R

"He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
 my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'
**And I will make him the first-born,
 the highest of the kings of the earth.**
 My steadfast love I will keep for him for ever,
 and my covenant will stand firm for him.
**I will establish his line for ever
 And his throne as the days of the heavens.**

If his children forsake my law
and do not walk according to my ordinances,
If they violate my statutes
and do not keep my commandments,
then I will punish their transgression with the rod
and their iniquity with scourges;
but I will not remove from him my steadfast love,
or be false to my faithfulness.
I will not violate my covenant,
or alter the word that went forth from my lips.
Once for all I have sworn by my holiness;
I will not lie to David.
His line shall endure for ever,
his throne as long as the sun before me.
Like the moon it shall be established for ever;
it shall stand firm while the skies endure.”

R

The Second Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

You Are Mine

HAAS

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Building Permit"

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #463

Lord, Speak to Me

CANONBURY

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

God of all times and places, we confess that we have wandered after the false gods of this age. We have disobeyed your commandments, violated your covenant with us, and forsaken your ways. We have denied our need for you and mistreated those who you have called us to love. We have become strangers and aliens, plagued by false values that squeeze life from our souls. Loving Father, hear your penitent children, and let us come home, we pray. **AMEN.**

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #95

OLD 100th

+The Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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+Closing Hymn #580

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Shalom to You

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+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

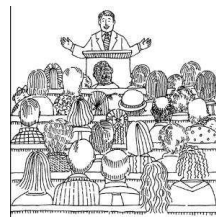
+Postlude

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 48



- Today: 8:45 AM Early Casual Service
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- Monday: Sewing Circle / Blanket Bee—**cancelled!**
- Tuesday: 10:00 AM—noon District Pastor's meeting in our fellowship hall
- Sunday (7/26): 5:30 PM Fellowship supper at Prescott's home

Our Gifts



The flowers today were given
by Marj & Al Prescott
in honor of their three grandchildren.

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
Organist emeritus: Trudi May
Acolyte: Martha Sherman
Greeters: Jill Russo (east)
Loretta (west)
Ushers: Richard Sherman (west)
Mike Herman (west)
George Alston (east)
Nursery: as needed
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: TBA
Outreach: Helen Burtchell
Missions: Richard Sherman
Finance: Mike Herman
Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
Kitchen: Marie Fields
Membership: Marj Prescott
Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
Memorials: Matt Johnston
Newsletter: Susan Merchant
Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

If you are interested in knowing more about our mission projects, our church, or becoming a member, please call Pastor Rob at 252 586-5385.

We welcome **Janet Weaver** back as our **guest flutist**.

The **Sewing Circle / Blanket Bee** has been cancelled for this month.

On Tuesday from 10:00 - noon, there will be a **District Pastor's meeting** in our fellowship hall.

Next Sunday evening at 5:30, there will be a **Fellowship Supper** at the home of Al & Marj Prescott. Please bring a dish to pass.

Barbara Barham would like to thank everyone for the prayers for her and her family since the death of her niece, Cynthia "Cindy" Moseley Blythe.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**