

**Littleton United Methodist Church**  
**July 26, 2009**  
**The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Service of the Word**

**Prelude** *Prelude in C Major* J.S. BACH  
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* Page 658

**+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: We do not come before you, O God, as heroes and heroines, making boasts and seeking halos.

People: **We come before you as rebels and sinners, making confession and seeking forgiveness.**

Pastor: Like King David, we have exalted you in public, but we have betrayed you in secret.

People: **Yet, you have blotted out our transgressions, and you have forgiven our sins. Open our mouths, O God, that we might shout your praise and hail your love.**

**+Entrance Hymn #98** *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**Prayer of the Day**

**Generous God, from whom comes every morsel we eat and every gift we are moved to share, test us, challenge us, feed us, that our eyes may be opened to realize the bounty we receive from your hand, our ears may be opened to hear the prophet's word, and our wills may be strengthened to follow fearlessly where Christ leads, to your glory, and for the benefit of all humankind. AMEN.**

**The First Reading** *2 Samuel 11:1-15* Darla Angel, Lay Reader

In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from

her uncleanness.) Then she went back home. The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house. When David was told, "Uriah did not go home," he asked him, "Haven't you just come from a distance? Why didn't you go home?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home. In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

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

**Psalter**

*Psalm 14*



Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

**They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds,  
 there is none that does good.**

The Lord looks down from heaven on all people,  
 to see if there are any that are wise,  
 who seek after God.

**They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;  
 there is none that does good,  
 No, not one.**

**R**

Have they no knowledge, the evildoers  
 who eat up my people as they eat bread,  
 and do not call upon the Lord?

**There they shall be in great terror,  
 for God is with the generation of the righteous.**

You would confound the plans of the poor,  
 but the Lord is their refuge.

**O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!  
When the Lord restore their fortunes,  
Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad!**

**R**

**The Second Reading**

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

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

**Anthem**

*Your Love, O God*

LUNDBERG  
Greg Solovieff, soloist

**+Gospel Acclamation #2043**

*Alleluia*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

**+The Holy Gospel**

*John 6:1-21*

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

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

**Sermon****“Deep Magic”**

Rev. Rob Licht

**+Hymn #427***Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

GERMANY

**+The Apostles' Creed**

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**Prayer of Confession**

O God, you know our secret hearts. You are aware of our distortions, our jealousies, our lust. You observe our unfaithfulness, our treachery, our unwarranted fears. We are corrupted by greed, self-indulgence, and the desire to be entertained. We do not take responsibility for our misconduct, our abuse of power, our lack of trust in you. We have little sense of vision to see beyond immediate circumstances or to embrace new possibilities. We miss the signs of your grace and resist the empowerment of your Spirit. Mighty God, still the storms within us with your transforming peace and boundless forgiveness, in Jesus Name. 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***Andantino*

MOZART

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 #102***Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET

**+Dismissal with Blessing****+Congregational Response***Shalom to You*

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**+Taking God's Light Into The World****+Chiming of the Trinity****+Postlude***Menuetto*

BEETHOVEN

*+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: 43



Today: 8:45 AM Early Casual Service  
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service  
5:30 PM Fellowship supper at Prescott's home - indoors

## Our Gifts

Offerings 7/12: \$ 3,048.84



The flowers today were given  
by Marj & Al Prescott  
in memory of their parents.

## 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: Connie Henry (east)  
Anna Brown (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.*

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

The **Sounds of Gold** will be performing at **8:00 Thursday evening** at Englewood United Methodist Church in Rocky Mount. Darla Angel is a member of this cappella choir.

#### **Coming soon:**

**August 5th-12th: El Salvador Mission Trip** Richard Sherman & Ed Angel will be participating. Please keep them in your prayers.

**August 12th** at noon: **Women in Christian Fellowship** at the Refuge Church

**August 15th** 10am - 2pm: **UMW Study** "Food & Faith" in our fellowship hall

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