

Littleton United Methodist Church
July 4, 2010
The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
Service of Word and Table

Prelude *Gregorain March* GUILMANT
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 attendance pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit #2038 *Father, I Adore You* MARANATHA

+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: O neighbors, have you not heard the news? The realm of God is drawing near!

People: **Mustard seeds are falling around us, scattered by the Spirit's hand!**

Pastor: Come, let us tend and water them, and see that none is choked by thorns;

People: **Come, let us sing, and the seeds will grow tall, and even the birds shall build nests in the branches.**

+Entrance Hymn #698 *God of the Ages* NATIONAL HYMN

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, by your Word, open us up to your assignment. Show us what you would have us do. Lead us in your righteousness to bear the marks of Jesus, to glory in the cross, and to do good to all people. May we be bearers of your peace wherever we go. AMEN.

The First Reading *2 Kings 5:1-14* Bruce Fowler, Lay Reader

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone

to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

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

Psalter

Psalm 30



I will extol you, O Lord, for you have lifted me up,
 and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O Lord, my God, I cried to you for help,
 and you healed me.**

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
**Restored me to life from among those gone
 down to the pit.**

R

Sing praises to the Lord, O his faithful ones,
 and give thanks to his holy name.

**Surely the Lord's anger is but for a moment;
 the Lord's favor is for a lifetime.**

Weeping may tarry for the night,
 but joy comes with the morning.

**As for me, I said in my prosperity,
 "I shall never be moved."**

By your favor, O Lord,
 you have established me as a strong mountain;

**you hid your face,
I was dismayed.**

R

To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:

**“What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the pit?**

Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!”**

You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth
and girded me with gladness,
that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever

R

The Second Reading

Galatians 6:1-16

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load. Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Let Christ's Freedom Ring

REYNOLDS

+Gospel Acclamation #2043 *Alleluia*

+The Holy Gospel

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“An Abundant Harvest”

Rev. Rob Licht

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, our false pride brings us to our knees before you, seeking once more to be freed from the burden of our sin. We have grabbed for ourselves what is rightly to be claimed by others. We have lived deceitfully, speaking lies and trying to re-order our world to revolve around us. We have failed to share the bounty that you have poured out on us, or witness convincingly to the good news of Christ for all people. Help us to change, O God, as you forgive and offer us a new start. **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

Adagio

MENDOLSSOHN
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

+The Doxology #94

+The Prayer of Dedication

Hymn #593

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

The Great Thanksgiving (Alternate Musical Setting)
The Lord's Prayer

Laminated Sheet
Page 895

+Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Let us never be weary of well-doing. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

+Closing Hymn #437

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response #2184

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

ENVIADO

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Festive Postlude

ROTH

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*Communion rail offerings are designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.
Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex.*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 50



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
Monday: *church office closed*
Wednesday: 7:00 PM Choir Practice
Friday: 9:00 AM Food Delivery

Our Gifts

Offerings 6/13

\$ 787.00



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: Loretta Woodburn (west)
Frances Howell (east)
Ushers: Al Prescott (east)
Richard Sherman (west)
Sherman Merchant (west)
Nursery: as needed
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2010 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: Diana Parham
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

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Pancake Breakfast yesterday.

The church **office will be closed on Monday** in observance of Independence Day.

The **choir rehearsal** for July will be this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

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