

September 4, 2022
 Message: When Hope Seems Lost
 Suicide Prevention Sunday

Prelude *I Will Sing of My Redeemer* June Shuffett

Welcome/Announcements Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

*Call to Worship

Pastor: In the times of trouble,
 when all seemed hopeless, I cried out to God.

People: And the Lord heard my pleas and answered me.

Pastor: When I felt lost and alone, I looked for God.

People: And God found me and brought me home.

*Hymn *Great is Thy Faithfulness* UMH 140

*Opening Prayer Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Holy God,

You are ever faithful.

**When hope seems lost,
 remind us that You are always with us.**

**When we feel unloved,
 remind us that we are Your beloved.**

**When we feel like our world is shaken,
 set firmly on Your steadfast love;
 through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

Children's Message Linda Biscardo

Mission Moment Race and Faith/Beloved Discipleship

Prayer Litany Sarah & Zach Chambers

Leader: Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day,
 and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us . . .

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: The prejudice that blinds us . . .

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: The ignorance that hobbles us . . .

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: The doubt that plagues us . . .

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offering *Panis Angelicus* Robert Shuffett

*Doxology UMH 95

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow!
Praise Him all creatures here below!
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts!
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Old Testament Reading Psalm 13, 40:2-3 Peggy Brown

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Psalm 40:2-3

He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

Message *When Hope Seems Lost* Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion Sarah Chambers
It is in our confession where we realize our desire for God and our hope for God's mercy. It is in admitting the truth of our lives that we take the first step toward wholeness and healing.

Silent Confession

Communal Prayer of Assurance

**People: Holy God, giver of life and forgiver of sin,
 We come to you now with hope –
 Hope that you will always love us,
 Hope that you will not hold our sin against us,
 Hope that you will turn us around from what is evil,
 Toward what is good.
 Walk with us, and help us
 To look clearly at our lives and the world,
 That we may embrace all with love.**

Leader: Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven,

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

All: Alleluia! AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 13

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .

And so, we Your people on earth

and with all the company of heaven

praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are You . . . And so, in remembrance
 of these Your might acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ's offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.**

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

**Eternal God,
we give You thanks for this holy mystery
in which You have given Yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of Your Spirit,
to give ourselves to others
in the name our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

*Hymn

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

Near to the Heart of God

June Shuffett