

St. Timothys United Methodist Church
3220 Terrace Drive
319-266-0464
<http://www.sttims-umc.org/>



August 31, 2008 – 10:15 am
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(Large print bulletins and hymnals and hearing aid devices are available. A nursery is provided for children younger than First Grade. Ask an usher to help you.)

Gathering

Prelude

"Nocturne"

John Field

(We invite you to use the prelude as a time for centering on God, the Holy, the Spirit, the Living Jesus. Please be considerate of others for whom this is a quiet time.)

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship

Responsively

Leader: Take off your shoes, for the Holy Mystery is in this place. Take them off to draw closer to God's earthy presence. (Pause for people to remove their shoes.) As you take them off, remove as well the barriers to seeing and hearing. Remove the perception that you must be someone else or something more to know holiness. Remove the idea that you must journey somewhere else to be in a sacred space. Remove the "to do" lists, the list of failures, the protection goggles that keep us from seeing things. Come and rest awhile in God's place.

People: Clear the way; we are ready for God!

***Opening Song**

"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"

Black hymnal, 2060

Unison Prayer

Compassionate, loving God, every day we see and hear the misery and suffering of oppressed people. Too often, we do not know ourselves to be your partner in their liberation. Call us. Empower us. Consecrate us. Send us. Amen.

Praying

Call to Prayer "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" Black hymnal, 2200

Sharing Joys and Concerns

(After each joy or concern, we sing, "**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.**")

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sing responsively) Black hymnal, 2278

***Passing the Peace**

Listening to the Word

Scripture Song "Go Down, Moses" Red hymnal, 448

The Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 3:1-15 Pew Bible, 50

Anthem Russ Clarke, bagpipes
"Highland Cathedral" and "Amazing Grace" – traditional

Sermon "Let My People Go" Dick Clark

Moment of Meditation "Morag of Dunvagon" (traditional) Russ Clarke, bagpipes

Responding to the Word

Opportunities and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Liturgist

It takes one flicker of flame to engulf a bush in brightness. It takes one mustard seed to create a host of branches for birds to nest. It takes one fellowship of sinners at table to turn the expectations of the world upside down. It takes one small coin dropped in the treasury to evoke the affirmation and challenge of Jesus. By your blessing our offering will send deep waves of mercy. By your blessing our lives are enough to rock a world with justice. We hear, we receive, we respond, we serve.

-Seasons of the Spirit, 2008

Offertory "Holy Ground" Davis/arr.Bock, Keveren, Clark

***Dedication Song** "Holy Ground" Black hymnal, 2272

***Prayer of Dedication**

Give us the attention to hear the cries of the suffering, those in our community who are lonely, those without enough work or support, those who are afraid to be who they really are, those who run from their pasts or their futures. Give us the courage to work through our excuses to respond to the needs of one another. Help us to see your glorious mystery working so that we may be a daring church, willing to lose who we are in order to find who you want us to be. We offer our lives and our offerings. May they send deep waves of mercy and rock the world with justice. Amen.

Going Forth

***Closing Song** *"Deep in the Shadows of the Past"* Black hymnal, 2246

***Blessing**

***Blessing Response** *"Holy Ground"* Black hymnal, 2272

***Postlude** *"Go Down, Moses"* Spiritual/arr. Myra Schubert

* = The Congregation is invited to stand
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