

Welcome to Harwich United Methodist Church



September 10, 2023

~~WE GATHER~~

Prelude

Sharing joys and concerns

Leader: As we continue our worship series, "Come to the Table." . . . because love is God, and God is love. Let us rise in body or spirit and welcome one another to the table of Love!

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love. #3168
This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love!

Call to Worship: Taking Our Place, Opening to Others

L: We come to this table not only for food, but for friendship and family.

P: We are here not only to eat, but to serve.

L: We prepare our meal of bread and fruit of the vine with compassion.

P: We invite everyone to join in the feast.

L: We are all part of one human family.

P: We are united in love.

***Opening Hymn**

Lord, I Want to be A Christian"

#402

Opening Prayer:

Gracious God, we come this day seeking courage and hope for the future. Our world is in such peril. Heal these wounds and quiet the words of war. Help us to be those who bring peace in our families and communities. Banish the darkness of doubt and fear; anoint us with your light and love that we may spread the good news of your mercy to everyone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession: The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ.

We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it's easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote the way we vote. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love.

We believe that you have the power to turn us around to a more inclusive way of living, so we ask you to do that. We ask you to give us the courage to change. We ask that you give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace of Christ

Responsive Psalm 119:33-40

Response 3 (p. 841)

p. 842

~~WE PROCLAIM~~

Preparation to Hear God's Word

"As We Gather at Your Table" (vs. 1)

#2268

New Testament Scripture

Romans 13: 9-14 and Matthew 18: 15-20

The Word of God for the People of God

Thanks Be to God.

Anthem

"We All Are One in Mission"

J. Martinson

Sermon

"Instructions!"

Pastor Dianne

~~WE RESPOND~~

Prayers of the People

"At This Table"

At this table we lift our voices in prayer. At this table we seek your peace
At this table we know you have drawn near. At this table we find release.

Offertory

Offering

*Doxology

Be Present at Our Table Lord"

#621

*Offering Prayer

God of love and compassion, we ask you to dedicate the tithes and offerings we bring to worship. We do this in the hope that you will do more with them than we could ever do on our own to heal the brokenness and division in our world. Remind us that the work of reconciliation does not get removed from our list because we put something in the offering and that mission field is within our arms' reach. This we pray in the redeemer's holy name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

~~WE GO FORTH~~

*Closing Hymn

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love" #2223

Benediction . . . Let the people say, "Amen!" Amen!

* "God Be With You"

from #672

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

*Postlude

Liturgist: Pat Thayer

Ushers: Juell Buckwold and Nick Dillmann

Coffee Hour: Wendy Storer

You are welcome here. No matter who you are. No matter what.

Scripture Readings for September 17, 2023

Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103(1-7), 8-13;

Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-3

Calendar

Sunday, September 10: Choir resumes with 9am rehearsal.

Sunday, September 17: Ad Board meets after worship
4 pm Potluck (open to the public)

Monday, September 18: Thrift Shop Volunteers meet at 12:15pm

Prayers

Grieving: Families and friends of Don and Darlene Ryan
and Chie Young's grandfather; all who have lost loved ones
and been displaced by fires, hurricanes and other disasters

Hospice: David Thyng

The effects of climate change world-wide
Brian Mielke and others seeking employment



Healing: Judy Thomas, Hilda Remer, Karl Young, Don Gould, Sr., Ruth Zeller, Joan
Felahi, Gloria Brown, Linda Todenhagen, Sloan Gambardella, Chris Shaper,
Sheila Johnson, Irene Van Norden, Dianne Bennett

Continued Prayers: Dan Murphy, Don Howell, Al Thompson, Donald Turcotte, Kenny
Souza, Joan Stevens, Nancy McIntyre, Pauline Doliber, Michael Chatham, Greg
Legeyt and Karen Daffinee