

# ~ Welcome ~

July 23, 2023

10:30am

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude "Carol of the Bells" with "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

*Arr. By: Tom Fettke*

Welcome & Announcements

\*Greeting

\*Opening Hymn "There's a Song in the Air" UMH No. 249

\*Call to Worship Psalm 139, v. 1-12, 23-24 UMH No. 854-855

*Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me!*

**People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

*Leader: You search out my path and my laying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.*

**People: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it altogether**

*Leader: You pursue me behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.*

**People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.**

*Leader: Whither shall I go from your spirit?*

**People: Or whither shall I flee from your presence?**

*Leader: If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Scheol, you are there!*

**People: If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.**

*Leader: If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,"*

**People: Even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day; for darkness is as light with you.**

*Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts;*

**People: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!**

\*Morning Prayer

**Creator God, Holy Gardener who sustains and nurtures all life, open us today to your life-giving grace and transformative love. As we notice our internal struggles, empower us to greet the wheat and the weeds in our own hearts with care and compassion. As we recognize the challenges and suffering in our community, inspire us to meet the weeds and the wheat in our neighbors with acceptance and hope. We know that you alone have the final say, and so we give ourselves over to you as instruments of hospitality and grace that we would tend our neighbors even as we are tended by you. Amen.**

Christmas Hymn Sing

Children's Time "Weeds in the Garden" Millie Frambaugh  
*At the conclusion of Children's Time all children age 4 through 5th grades are invited to go with the teachers for Sunday School.*

Blessing of the Undergarments

Prayers of the People

Sharing our Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

\*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning; is now and ever shall be: World without end! Amen, Amen!*

Prayer for Illumination

**All: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Genesis 28: 10-19a p. 28  
Romans 8: 12-25 p. 1043  
Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 p. 902

Sue Kelly

Message

"Pulling Weeds"

Jim Yannayon

Moment of Reflection

Offering

"Happy Birthday, Jesus"

*Arr. By: Melody Bober*

\*Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all Creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

UMH No. 95

Offertory Prayer

\*Closing Hymn

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH No. 206

\*Benediction *Leader: Keep your eyes on the gate of heaven.*

**People: We will see angels climbing Jacob's ladder, as they bring our prayers to God.**

*Leader: Fix your gaze on the entry to the Holy One.*

**People: We will see angels climbing Jacob's ladder, as they bring our hopes before the Lord.**

*Leader: Wherever you are on life's journey, take time to mark sacred encounters with joy.*

**People: We will see the salvation of our God.**

*Leader: Go as children of the light, children of the living God.*

\*Postlude "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"

*Arr. By: Cindy Berry*

\*Indicates congregation to stand

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Pastor Jane Piehl  
Millie Frambaugh

Pastor  
Music Director

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**Upcoming Events**

8/4-8/6 Combined VBS at Granger UMC  
8/6 10a Combined Church Service at Granger UMC with Lunch and  
Blessing of the Pets  
8/20 Blessing of the Backpacks  
9/17 Back to Church Sunday  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Sunday

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-Save the Date! Aug. 4-6 will be Vacation Bible School with "Pet's Unleashed."

Date: Fri. Aug. 4, from 6p to 8:30p, Sat. Aug. 5, from 9:30a to Noon

Sun. Aug. 6, Sunday Celebration, Cookout & Blessing of the Pets at 10AM (Outdoor)

Location: Granger UMC, 1235 Granger Road, Medina

Register by: Aug. 1 by going to [www.sharoncenterumc.org](http://www.sharoncenterumc.org) and clicking on the VBS info on the main page

-Aug. 20 is Blessing of the Backpack Sunday. Bring your Backpack to church for the start of the next school year.

-Sept. 17 is Back to Church Sunday! Bring a Friend!

Welcome to Sharon Center United Methodist Church!

**SHARON CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Worship Service: 10:30am

Church Office: (330) 239-1616

SharonCenterUMCSecretary@gmail.com

Church hours: Mon, Weds 11a-1p, Fri 11a-3p

July 23, 2023

Pastor Jane Piehl

JanePiehl@gmail.com

