

Banning United Methodist Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 2024

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

Cathy Mauge

WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

Myrle Petty

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Myrle Petty

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Lisa Morand, Guide Dogs of the Desert - Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Doug

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Cathy Mauge

†CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God is our sun and our shield.

P: God's glory shines upon us.

L: God is our strength and our hope,

P: God's faithfulness guides us.

L: God is our hope and salvation,

P: God's love and mercy welcomes us. Amen.

Myrle Petty

†OPENING HYMN

"We Gather Together"

UMH #131

†OPENING PRAYER

Myrle Petty

God of grace and glory, pour out the power of Your Holy Spirit on our worship and gathering. Strengthen and protect us with Your steadfast faithfulness. Feed us with Your bread of life and guide our steps with the wisdom of Your word. In Your Holy Name, we pray. Amen.

PSALM READING

Myrle Petty

Ephesians 6:10-20 NRSV

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

GOSPEL READING

Pastor Doug

John 6:56-69 NRSV

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SUNDAY ENSEMBLE**SERMON**

"Food for the Battle"

Pastor Doug

PRAYERS

Pastor Doug

Children in Prayer (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Myrle Petty

MASON JAR MINISTRIES (All proceeds will go to benefit Guide Dogs of the Desert)

Myrle Petty

OFFERTORY

Cathy Mauge

†**DOXOLOGY**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Myrle Petty

Bread of Heaven, thank You for nourishing us with Your mercy and grace. Thank You for blessing us with the blessing of being Your disciples – disciples who share You freely with Your world. May our gifts and offerings become food and blessings for Your world. Amen.

SENDING FORTH†**CLOSING HYMN**

"O How I Love Jesus"

UMH #170

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING†**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

POSTLUDE

Cathy Mauge