

Welcome To Worship
Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church
September 10, 2023 ~ 11 am

PRELUDE: "Morning Has Broken" Jocelyn Cooper, Becky DeLameter, Karen Doerrler

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sharla Worley

CALL TO WORSHIP: Sharla Worley

If you want a responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of Dedication printed in the bulletin, please get it to Donna by Wednesday morning.

We gather today as God's people.

Let us celebrate God's eternal presence and love.

We gather today to worship Him, to thank Him, and to seek His direction.

Let us open our spirits to receive God's direction for our lives.

We will leave this place today, blessed to have spent this time together.

Let us carry our blessing beyond these walls, prepared to share generously and joyfully with others.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Sharla Worley

*OPENING SELECTION: "I Surrender"

Here I am down on my knees again
Surrendering all surrendering all

Find me here Lord as You draw me near
Desp'rate for You desp'rate for You

I surrender

Drench my soul as mercy and grace unfold
I hunger and thirst I hunger and thirst

With arms stretched wide I know You hear my cry
Speak to me now speak to me now

I surrender I surrender
I want to know You more
I want to know You more
I surrender I surrender
I want to know You more
I want to know You more

Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within
Lord have Your way Lord have Your way in me
Like a mighty storm stir with - in my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me

Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within
Lord have Your way Lord have Your way in me
Like a mighty storm stir with - in my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me

I surrender I surrender
I want to know You more
I want to know You more

I surrender I surrender
I want to know You more
I want to know You more

GREETING: Sharla Worley

YOUTH/CHILDREN'S SPOTLIGHT & MESSAGE: Michele Stine
Children will be dismissed to Children's Church

PUBLIC READING OF THE SCRIPTURE: Lyla Cooper
Luke 16: 1-13

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." ³ Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" ⁶ He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." ⁷ Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

*SELECTION: "Heart Abandoned"

In the secret place where I see Your face
Will You take me there again
You can search my heart in the deepest part
From beginning to the end

To You my eyes are lifting To You my prayer is rising up
You've captured my attention Consume me consume me

God give me a heart abandoned
Ever after You alone
Gold and silver You can take it
All I want is You my Lord

You can have my soul just like Jericho
Come and tear down my walls
And I am in Your hands You are the Promised Land
You are the King of my heart

To You my eyes are lifting To You my prayer is rising up
You've captured my attention Consume me consume me

God give me a heart abandoned
Ever after You alone
Gold and silver You can take it
All I want is You my Lord

When I've been the fool and I hid from You
You still called out my name
When my flesh is weak will You help me see
You are all that I need
You are all that I need

Oh oh oh oh

God give me a heart abandoned
Ever after You alone
Gold and silver You can take it

All I want is You my Lord
Ending (Very Loud, All Voices)
Oh Oh Oh Oh

SERMON: "Money – The Excellent Gift" Rev. Ken Dunnington

SELECTION: "Less Like Me"

Oh I have days I lose the fight
Try my best but just don't get it right
Where I talk a talk that I don't walk
And miss the moments right before my eyes

Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped
Somebody with a hand that I could have held
When I just can't see past myself
Lord help me be

A little more like mercy a little more like grace
A little more like kindness goodness love and faith

A little more like patience a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus
A little less like me

Yeah there's no denying I have changed
I've been saved from who I used to be
But even at my best I must confess
I still need help to see the way You see

Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped
Somebody with a hand that I could have held
When I just can't see past myself
Lord help me be

A little more like mercy a little more like grace
A little more like kindness goodness love and faith
A little more like patience a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus
A little less like me

Oh to feed the beggar on the street
Love to be Your hands and feet
Freely give what I receive Lord help me be
I want to put You first above all else
Love my neighbor as myself
In the moments no one sees Lord help me be

A little more like mercy a little more like grace

A little more like kindness goodness love and faith
A little more like patience a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus
A little less like me

A little more I'm living everything I preach
A little more like Jesus a little less like me

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Sharla Worley

*OFFERING WITH OFFERTORY PRAISE: "Less Like Me"

A little more like mercy a little more like grace

A little more like kindness goodness love and faith
A little more like patience a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus
A little less like me

A little more I'm living everything I preach
A little more like Jesus a little less like me

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Sharla Worley

God of grace, you are the source of all we have.

It is our delight and our devotion to respond to your generosity by sharing our gifts

generously with others.

We ask that you accept this offering as a token of our abiding love.

Use it to help bring peace, justice, and comfort to all the world. Amen.

BENEDICTION: Rev. Ken Dunnington