

*Our Mission:  
Love God  
Love Others  
Make Disciples*



*Our Vision:  
Be the hands  
and feet  
of Christ*

**September 27, 2020  
Order of Worship  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Prelude  
Greeting

Call to Worship

Let us lift our eyes, for God is enthroned in the heavens!  
**We look to the Lord, for God is our source and our strength.**  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!  
**We ponder God's steadfast love, a never-ending stream.**  
God's name reaches to the ends of the earth!  
**God will forever be our guide.**  
Come, let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

God of all Goodness and Grace, we are gathered in your name to bring ourselves as an offering - body and soul - to serve your realm. Mold us into the creation you intend that we might embody your truth in a world that needs it so desperately. **AMEN.**

Opening Hymn

*He Is Exalted*

TFWS 2070, 2X

**He is exalted,  
the King is exalted on high;  
I will praise him.  
He is exalted,  
forever exalted  
and I will praise his name!  
He is the Lord,  
forever his truth shall reign;  
heaven and earth rejoice  
in his holy name.  
He is exalted,  
the King is exalted on high.**

Concerns of the Community

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.**

Anthem

*Standing on the Promises*

Scripture Reading

Esther 4:1-17, NIV

When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. But he went only as far as the king's gate, because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

When Esther's eunuchs and female attendants came and told her about Mordecai, she was in great distress. She sent clothes for him to put on instead of his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. Then Esther summoned Hathak, one of the king's eunuchs assigned to attend her, and ordered him to find out what was troubling Mordecai and why.

So Hathak went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate. Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to instruct her to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people.

Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king."

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"For Such a Time As This"

Gail Blythe,  
Designated Lay Speaker

Closing Hymn

*Here I Am, Lord*

UMH 593, vs. 1 & 3

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Benediction

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher & Liturgist.....Gail Blythe,  
 Designated Lay Speaker  
 Music Director ..... David Forbus  
 Accompanist..... Laura Benton  
 A/V Team ..... Cary & Sally Marsalis

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*Our Vision:*  
*Be the hands*  
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**Traditional Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Live Online**

3700 W. Northgate Drive  
 Irving, TX 75062  
 972-252-8519  
[www.northgateumc.org](http://www.northgateumc.org)

### **HOW DO YOU GET TO CHURCH WITH US ON SUNDAYS?**

Join our live-streamed worship service starting at 10:45am Sunday.

The service will be presented online on FaceBook live, but you do not have to be a FaceBook user to watch it.

- Go to our website: [www.northgateumc.org](http://www.northgateumc.org)
- Scroll down to the bottom of the opening page to the lower right hand corner.
- Click on the  button and you'll be connected to the live stream.
- Enjoy this special community experience during worship.
- You may also access the service by using this link -  
<https://www.facebook.com/Northgate-United-Methodist-Church-170310129989/>

If you somehow miss the live-stream, you will still be able to access the service through the website later.

### **HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT NORTHGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH?**

You may:

1. **Mail a check** to Northgate United Methodist Church at 3700 W. Northgate Dr., Irving, TX 75062
2. **Drop a check** into the locked mailbox by the East side of the front main entrance double doors. Contents are not accessible without a key, so your donation will be safe. It is checked regularly.
3. **Online** through our conference offices via a link located on our website. Go to [www.northgateumc.org](http://www.northgateumc.org); scroll to the bottom of the front/first page of the site; click on the "Donate Here" button and follow the instructions. Please note the complete name of the church: Northgate United Methodist Church.

Thank you for your generosity. We hope to "see" you Sunday morning! Be safe. Be Blessed.