

Northgate United Methodist Church
September 6, 2020
Order of Worship
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebrating Labor Day Weekend
Communion Sunday

Prelude
Greeting

Call to Worship

Sing praise to God who rescues us when we fall!

Sing praise to God who walks with us on all our journeys!

Even though we fall, God lifts us and places us on paths of peace.

Even though we stray, God finds us and brings us back to lives of hope.

Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us.

Praise be to God, whose mercy is over us all. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

We love to say, "I may forgive, but I'll never forget!" And we think that we are truly following the ways of Christ. How blind we are, O Lord. Forgiveness means wiping the slate clean, not retaining the hurt. It works both ways: letting ourselves make a decision for healing and reaching out to the one who has hurt us to offer forgiveness and redemption. None of us is perfect. We know that. But Jesus reminded us that love is the ruling component in lives of faithful living. Help us, O Lord, really receive the love that you have lavished upon us. Help us understand that love as an agent of forgiveness. As we bring before you the names of people and situations that are on our hearts, we seek your healing mercies and tender love for them. Remind us that the same mercy and love is continually offered to us, though we falter and fail, though we seek and strive. Be with us, gracious Lord, all of our days. **AMEN.**

Opening Hymn

Depth of Mercy

UMH 355

**Depth of mercy! Can there be
mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God his wrath forbear,
me, the chief of sinners, spare?**

**I have long withstood his grace,
long provoked him to his face,
would not hearken to his calls,
grieved him by a thousand falls.**

**I my Master have denied,
I afresh have crucified,
oft profaned his hallowed name,
put him to an open shame.**

**There for me the Savior stands,
shows his wounds and spreads his hands.
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.**

**Now incline me to repent,
let me now my sins lament,
now my foul revolt deplore,
weep, believe, and sin no more.**

Concerns of the Community

Pastoral Prayer

Loving and merciful God, we come before you this day, fresh from a week in which we have been challenged. Some of the challenges have caused us worry and strife; other challenges bring to us clear directions for our lives. In all of this, you are with us bringing healing and peace for our lives. We offer to you names of *those who are ill, who mourn, who feel lost and alienated, wondering if anyone cares about them.*

[Congregation may offer names of someone in the above categories for prayer].

Hear our prayers, O Lord. Bring your healing mercies to all these people we have named with our hearts and our voices.

We also bring to you, loving God, *names and situations of great joy and celebration*, for you have been in our midst during these times as well as during the difficult times.

[Congregation may offer names of someone in the above categories for prayer].

Hear our praises, O God. Bring your loving presence to all these people we have named with our hearts and our voices. For it is in the confidence of your abiding love and mercy that we offer this prayer.

AMEN.

Hymn

Freely, Freely

UMH 389

**God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his love as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live."**

**All power is given in Jesus' name,
in earth and heaven in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his power as he told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live."**

Young Disciples Time

Anthem

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'

Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Will You Forgive?”

Pastor Orr

HOLY COMMUNION

Table II

UMH 12-15

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

(All pray in silence)

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. AMEN.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. AMEN.

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & GIVING THE BREAD & CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. AMEN.

The blood of Christ, given for you. AMEN.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BENEDICTION

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher Pastor Freddie Orr
Liturgist Jay Marsh
Music Director David Forbus
Accompanist Laura Benton
A/V Team Cary Marsalis, Jay Marsh



Traditional Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Live Online


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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
- 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; 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.