

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
October 20, 2024 Laity Sunday

PRELUDE and TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

A Time of Praise

CALL TO WORSHIP (Sue)

L: We are called to be witnesses who bring life to light.

P : **We know the Spirit guards for safe keeping every life entrusted to God.**

L: We listen for the altar call of grace at every address.

P: **We know grace is a prayer for help answered.**

L: In all that we do, we are growing together in God's grace, ever at work for the life of the world.

P: **We thank God that the same Savior who accompanies us leads us to bear witness to grace at work in others.**

*OPENING HYMN (Sue) *Come Christians, Join to Sing*
#158

UNISON PRAYER (Judy)

Though you are God,
with all the influence and status that the name implies, you refused to pull rank, and parade your power among us. Instead, you chose to step down into our experience, living among us, as one of us, with all the struggle and suffering that goes with being human. More than that, you adopted the role of servant, washing feet, serving people of no reputation or social standing, and giving of yourself completely. As incredible as it sounds, you are the God who serves, and we can respond in no other way than to give ourselves to you in praise. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM (Judy) Psalm 104 #826

Unison Act of Confession and Pardon (Ella Mae)

Gracious God, we confess that too often we clamor for attention. Me! Me! Look at how important I am. That's what our actions say. Like James and John, we pray selfish prayers, for power, for position, for prestige—for what? So that people will say how great we are? Teach us that true greatness comes from

humble service. Show us how to roll up our sleeves, dig in, and lend a hand; even when no one else will. Preoccupy us with humility, then greatness can come when we least expect it. Give us the grace to live as humble servants.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Praise be to God, our sins are forgiven. God's steadfast love endures forever. Praise God!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON (Jen) Job 38:1-7

CHORAL ANTHEM

EPISTLE READING (Carolyn) Hebrews 5:1-10

GOSPEL LESSON (Sue) Mark 10:35-45

SERMON (Sue)

*HYMN *I Know Whom I Have Believed* #714

Responding To God's Word

A TIME OF PRAYER (Sue)

Joys and Concerns and A Time of Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer #895

Choral prayer Response

RECEIVING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS (Sue)

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, you teach us humility and service. We bring our offerings today with grateful hearts. As we reflect on your holy scripture today, may we give as a testament to our commitment to serve others, not seeking the highest places but embracing the path of sacrificial love. Bless these gifts and use them to advance your kingdom. Remind us that true greatness always comes through serving. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*
#154

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS OF BENEDICTION

L: Go into the world, guarding with care the friends of God you see in every place you live, work, and play.
P: And may God the Spirit help you shed light on Love's work, with all, for life.
Amen.

SUNG BENEDICTION *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*
(vs 1) #664

*POSTLUDE

Today's Worship Leaders: Sue White, Judy Rathbun,
Ella Mae Packard, Jen Farrin, and Carolyn Jones
Verne Smith, Video Production Manager
Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director,
Rev. Elizabeth Bachelder Smith, Pastor