

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2009 10:00 a.m.

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*Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call To Worship

L: Come to listen for all God seeks to teach us. God has given us birth by the word of truth.

P: **We are drawn to God as to a lover. We leap for joy when we know God's care.**

L: Every perfect gift comes to us from God. God's image is a part of each one of us.

P: **God's grace has been poured into our lives. Wisdom and understanding are offered to us.**

L: Who will dwell on God's holy hill? Those who walk uprightly and speak the truth.

All: **We will honor God by honoring our neighbors. We will act toward them as we wish to be treated.**

Hymn "Take My Life, and Let It Be" #399

Opening Prayer:

Generous giver of life, we pause from our hurrying, we rest from our scheduling, and we hold still our anxious minds. For in your calming presence, and open to your Spirit, we seek another way of being, another way of doing. May we simply be people who in our stumbling humanity, mirror your love and goodness with joy, purpose and passion. Amen.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

A Time For The Child In All Of Us

Offertory "The Gift of Love" #408

Doxology #95

Offertory Prayer

Our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for all the bounty you entrust to our stewardship, O God of light. You have reached into the shadows, where we often flee, to rescue us and give us your work to do. As you have freed us from the chains of sin, we seek to offer healing to others as we listen and share and do. Bless our offering of self and gifts, we pray. Amen.

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Anthem "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow"
Charlie Ewers

Reading of the Word

Epistle James 1:17-27

Gospel Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Hymn "I Love You, Lord" #2068

Message Rev. Michele Ewers

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time For 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn *“Lord of the Dance”* **#261**

Sending Forth

- L:** God offers each of us deep inner cleansing. We can become whole people, unstained by the world.
- P:** **In the world around us, life is cheap. Violence destroys what is valuable to God.**
- L:** We are called to challenge this destruction. We are to love righteousness and turn from wickedness.
- P:** **We want to witness to the power of love. We believe people can change and turn from wickedness.**
- L:** God’s word transforms all who hear and heed it. God blesses those who are doers of the Word.
- All:** **God anoints us with the oil of gladness. Our hearts overflow with God’s good gifts. Amen.**

Closing Song *“City of God”* **Insert**

~Bringing The Light Into the World~

*Call to Worship, Offertory Prayer and Sending Forth are taken from
Led by Love by Lavon Baylor.
Opening Prayer is from Seasons of the Spirit.*

*Other lectionary readings for Today:
Song of Solomon 2: 8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9*