

ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 14, 2020

The Second Sunday after Pentecost



**We are a church where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary,
and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world.**

Gathering Music	Betsy Stelzer, Accompanist
Welcome	Rev. Kelly Wadsworth Christ is Risen. Christ is Risen, indeed. Peace be with you. And also with you.
Call to Worship	Liturgist:
Opening Songs	<i>I'm Gonna Sing When The Spirit Says Sing</i> African American Spiritual <i>I'm Gonna Sing 'Til The Spirit Moves In My Heart</i> Moses Hogan Led by Betsy Stelzer
Scripture Reading	Romans 5:1-8

By entering through faith into what God has always wanted to do for us — set us right with him, make us fit for him—we have it all together with God because of our Master Jesus. And that's not all: We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us. We find ourselves standing where we always hoped we might stand — out in the wide open spaces of God's grace and glory, standing tall and shouting our praise.

There's more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us, and how that patience in turn forges the tempered steel of virtue, keeping us alert for whatever God will do next. In alert expectancy such as this, we're never left feeling shortchanged. Quite the contrary — we can't round up enough containers to hold everything God generously pours into our lives through the Holy Spirit!

Christ arrives right on time to make this happen. He didn't, and doesn't, wait for us to get ready. He presented himself for this sacrificial death when we were far too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we hadn't been so weak, we wouldn't have known what to do anyway. We can understand someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him.

Sermon Rev. Kelly Wadsworth

Prayers of the People

Offering Prayer

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Offering Music *Because He Lives (Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing)*
Words by James Weldon Johnson/Music by J. Rosamund Johnson

Closing Prayer/Announcements

Closing Song *Blessed Assurance* Words by Fanny Crosby/Music by Phoebe Nash

Benediction

Hospitality Hour