

ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 2, 2020

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

COMMUNION SUNDAY



**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

Bring your bread and cup to worship for Communion Sunday.

Welcome

Rev. Kelly Wadsworth, Pastor

Christ is Risen.

Christ is Risen, indeed.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Call to Worship

Dan Kennedy, Liturgist

Opening Song

Let It Rise

William Murphy

Led by Betsy Stelzer

Multimedia Scripture, Sermon and Communion

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:26-39

The Message

Pastor Kelly

Meanwhile, the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.

So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture:

They kill us in cold blood because they hate you.
We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one.

None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing — nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable — absolutely *nothing* can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

Communion Re-enactment
Music Video: Rocka My Soul

Dan Kennedy/DH Lawrence reading

Offering Prayer

Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321 and a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki is more important now than ever as the church seeks to be a prophetic voice for all people in the year ahead.

Offering Music

Make Us Instruments of Your Peace
Words by St. Francis of Assisi
Music by Shoo-bee-doo-bop

Closing Prayer

Closing Song

How Great Thou Art Carl Boberg, 1885
Led by Joe Mitter, Verona Ryan and Vicky Smith

Benediction

Hospitality Hour

Worship & Music Team Meeting (11:00 am)