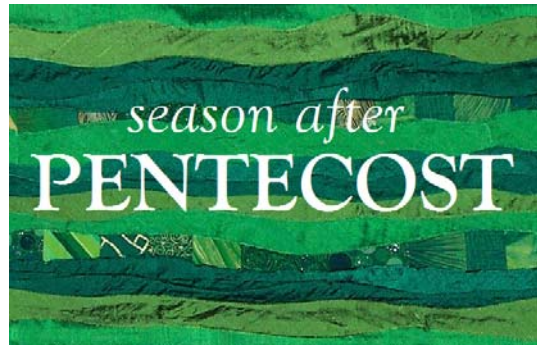


ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 26, 2021

Eighteenth 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 Zachary Kellogg, Guest Accompanish

Welcome Rev. Louis Mitchell

Call to Worship Dan K, Liturgist

Sung Response *Sanctuary* John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs
**Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

Contemporary Voice "Too often one jumps to the conclusion that something is impossible simply because we cannot see the solution. No one knows enough to be a pessimist." — Wayne W. Dyer

Opening Song Hymn #4 (NCS) *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

Scripture Readings:

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 (NRSV)

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6\ but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. 11 So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?"

Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me.

If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent.

Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp.

And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!”

But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

James 5:13-20 (adapted from NRSV)

Are any among you suffering? They should pray.

Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My kindred, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9:38-41

(NRSV)

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”

But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Sermon “Check Your Invitation!” Rev. Louis Mitchell

Second Hymn Hymn #451 (NCS) *Be Now My Vision*

Prayers of the People

Prayer deepens our relationship with God .

Prayer brings us closer to Divine Source.

*We are created with a need for connection,
and prayer is connection.*

*Praying is talking to the God,
just like friends talk to each other and
are brought closer together through their sharing.*

*When we pray, we open ourselves to God,
to each other and to the energies of those that we are praying for.*

*For the last few weeks, we’ve had some specific prompts –
for the next few weeks, we’ll do it a little differently.*

You are welcome to do this silently or if you wish to, in the chat.

Take this moment to pray for yourself – petition God for what you need, express your thanksgiving to God for who you are and what you have.

(moments of silence or chat writing)

Take this moment to prayer for your family, however you identify family.

(moments of silence or chat writing)

Take this moment to pray for your neighbors and wider community.

(moments of silence or chat sharing)

Take this moment to pray for all in public service – from the folks who work where you shop, to those that work in schools and institutions, those who serve in agencies who are tasked with serving the public in many ways.

(moments of silence or chat sharing)

And finally, take this moment to pray for peace and healing all over the world!

(moments of silence or chat sharing)

Now if you wish to, please unmute and join me in the whatever version of the Lord's Prayer that speaks to your spirit!

**“Our Creator, who are in heaven, beloved be your names.
Thy kin-dom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, Forgive us our sins – as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil.
For yours in the kin-dom, the power and the glory!
Now and forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering/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.

Musical Offering	The Gartan Mother's Lullabye Zachary Kellogg, C flute Verona Ryan, piano	Phil Coulter
-------------------------	--	--------------

Announcements

Moment of Ministry	Faith Formation
---------------------------	-----------------

Third Hymn	Hymn #593 (NCS)	<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i>
-------------------	-----------------	----------------------------------

Benediction	Rev. Louis Mitchell
--------------------	---------------------

Sung Benediction	<i>Peace I Leave With You, My Friends</i>	Ray Repp
-------------------------	---	----------

Postlude

Hospitality Hour

Alki UCC Sunday worship is recorded for posting on YouTube.

###