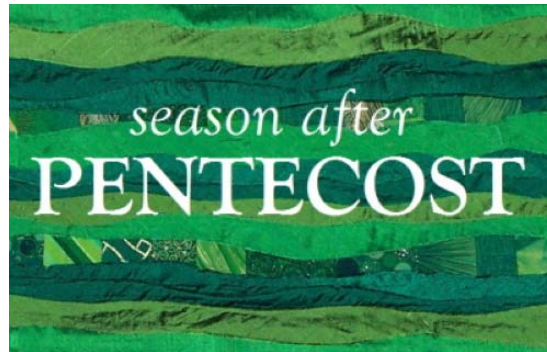


ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 14, 2021

Twenty-fifth 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	David Duvall, Guest Accompanist
Welcome	Rev. Louis Mitchell
Call to Worship	Julia P, Liturgist
Sung Response	<i>Sanctuary</i> 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	"Labor is also teamwork. It is a [parent] and baby learning together how to push and how to be born, how to yield and separate from the union of pregnancy. You are not in control nor are you out of control during labor. The best way to approach labor is with an attitude of learning rather than controlling." — <i>Dr. Gayle Peterson</i>
Opening Hymn	<i>I Will Trust in the Lord</i> African-American Spiritual
Scripture Readings:	1 Samuel 1:14-20 (NRSV) On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord.

Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord.

She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: "O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head."

As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk.

So Eli said to her, "How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine."

But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord.

Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time."

Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him."

And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your sight."

Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her.

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord."

Mark 13:10-15, 18-20 (NRSV)

Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.

Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Sermon “Doula to the Impossible!” Rev. Louis

Second Hymn Hymn #351 (NCH) *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

Prayers of the People

Prayer deepens our relationship with God . Prayer brings us closer to Divine Source.
We are created us 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.

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 *Children Will Listen* Stephen Sondheim

Announcements

Closing Hymn *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* Traditional

Benediction Rev. Louis

Sung Benediction *Peace I Leave With You, My Friends* Ray Repp

Postlude**Hospitality Hour**

Alki UCC Sunday worship is recorded for posting on YouTube.

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