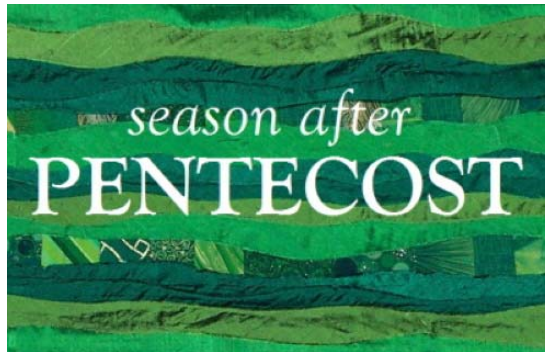


ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 21, 2021

Twenty-sixth 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	Jeff D, 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	"Where does your security lie? Is God your refuge, your hiding place, your stronghold, your shepherd, your counselor, your friend, your redeemer, your saviour, your guide? If [God] is, you don't need to search any further for security." — <i>Elisabeth Elliot</i>
Opening Hymn	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less</i> #403 NCH
Scripture Readings:	Job 5:8-27 (adapted from the NRSV) "As for me, I would seek God, and to God I would commit my cause. God does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number. God gives rain on the earth and sends waters on the fields; God sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted to safety. God frustrates the devices of the crafty, so that their hands achieve no success. God takes the wise in their own craftiness; and the schemes of the wily are brought to a quick end. They meet with darkness in the daytime, and grope at noonday as in the night. But God saves the needy from the sword of their mouth, from the hand of the mighty.

So the poor have hope,
and injustice shuts its mouth.
“How happy is the one whom God reproves;
therefore do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.
For God wounds, but God binds up;
God strikes, but God’s hands heal.
God will deliver you from six troubles;
in seven no harm shall touch you.
In famine God will redeem you from death,
and in war from the power of the sword.
You shall be hidden from the scourge of the tongue,
and shall not fear destruction when it comes.
At destruction and famine you shall laugh,
and shall not fear the wild animals of the earth.
For you shall be in league with the stones of the field,
and the wild animals shall be at peace with you.
You shall know that your tent is safe,
you shall inspect your fold and miss nothing.
You shall know that your descendants will be many,
and your offspring like the grass of the earth.
You shall come to your grave in ripe old age,
as a shock of grain comes up to the threshing floor in its season.
See, we have searched this out; it is true.
Hear, and know it for yourself.”

Matthew 7:24-26

(adapted from NRSV)

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise person who built their house on rock. 25 The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish one who built their house on sand.”

Second Hymn *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* #596 NCH

Sermon “Rock, Paper, Scissors” Rev. Louis

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 God Guards You Now David Duvall
Based on Psalm 121 as translated by Eugene H. Peterson in *The Message*

Announcements

Moment of Ministry: Steering Committee/Future Story

Closing Hymn *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* #410 NCH

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.