

**Edgerton UMC: Making Christ Known
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

August 21, 2016

9:00 am

(*) Please Stand as Able

Bold Print - Please Say In Unison

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We begin with announcements of the ministry and mission of the church. Please sign and pass the black Welcome Pad located at the ends of the pews along the centermost aisle.

OFFERINGS OF PRAISE

We come to God's presence joyfully and humbly, preparing ourselves to receive God's word.

PRELUDE

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High, Rick Founds
Nancy Dickinson, Organist/Keyboard

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Before we got up this morning and decided to come to church,

P: God was waiting for us, to welcome us with grace.

L: When we are unsure of what to do; when we falter before the next step,

P: we come to listen to God's voice, to learn from the One who teaches us all we ever need to know.

L: When we are surrounded by cruelty and injustice; when our fears cripple our souls,

P: God delivers us with steadfast love; we are set free to be God's sons and daughters.

***OPENING PRAYER**

O Loving, Creator God, when we are afraid and can only whisper our fear, once more, you bend over to listen to us. When everyone acts as if they can't remember our name, once more, you know us as your Beloved. When we cannot seem to tell others all that you have done for us, once more, you put the Word into our mouths. When others would weigh us down with shame and guilt, once more, you set us free with your joy. when we are bent over by our doubts and questions, once more, you reach out to touch us with your hope and grace. When we wander from one crippling spirit to the next, once more, you lead us into hope. When our fears shake us to the core, once more, you touch us with your serenity. When we cannot stand up and see our way, once more, you take us by the hand to lead us. God in and of Community, Holy in One, we tremble with praise and joy that we are yours and you are our God. Amen

HYMN

“I Come with Joy”

UMH 617

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN/ PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession is a spiritual discipline that leads us into a deeper relationship with the Holy. As we approach God in community in Confession, we open our hearts to the hearing of God's word.

L: My Friends, when we were children, we learned not to touch hot things so we would not be burned. If only avoiding sin was that easy! But sin seems so comfortable, so easy, and so harmless that we cannot stop ourselves from reaching out to touch it over and over again. Let us confess our sins to the One who chooses to forgive us and love us unconditionally, as we pray together, saying, the Unison Prayer of Confession...

Holy God, yet once more, we come to you with our prayers. Our crippling spirits keep us from following you. Our grudges weigh us down until we cannot walk straight in your way. Our anger becomes a fire which scorches our friends and loved ones. Our fears blind us to the goodness in those we believe to be different. Forgive us, God our Rock, and set us free from our wrong-doings and failures. From the day of our birth, we have known your love, grace, and hope. So may we offer you our joyful thanks, as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, reaches out to touch us with your healing forgiveness, yet once more.

A Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

L: God chooses not to turn a deaf ear to us, but to listen to our prayers. God chooses not to shame us, but to save us.

P: This is, indeed, good news for us! We are set free to drink deeply from the waters of life. Thanks be to God! Amen.

OFFERINGS OF WORSHIP

With confession and the acceptance of forgiveness we are better attuned to hear God's word.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 9:9-13

READING FROM ROMANS 14:4-14

MESSAGE *Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin*

HYMN

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

UMH 363

OFFERINGS OF THANKSGIVING

Having received the Word, we affirm our trust.

THE OFFERING

Special Music

The Lone Wild Bird,

American Folk Song, arr. Eugene Butler

*Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow" UMH 94

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May we welcome your gifts with thanksgiving, Loving God. May we share you gifts with grace, so others might be touched by your love, healed by your touch, fed and nourished by your compassionate as well as the fruit of your creation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Standn' In the Need of Prayer,

African-American Folk Song

(Please remain seated until the Postlude has ended.)

COFFEE HOUR IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following the 9:00 am worship service and prior to the 10:30 am worship service, for coffee and snacks. This is a great time to greet visitors and connect with your church family.

HOW TO REACH US

Edgerton United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells, Pastor

Daphne Marquardt, Administrative Assistant

112 Albion Street, Edgerton, Wisconsin 53534

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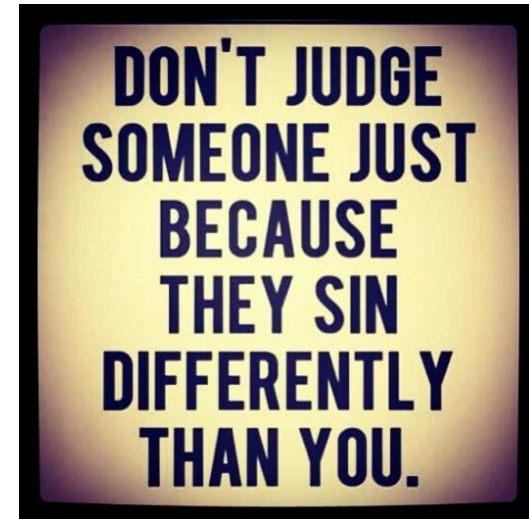
Church Office Hours: T, W, Th 2:00PM – 5:00PM

To make an appointment with Pastor Barb,

call her at 608-931-6804

*Welcome to
Edgerton United Methodist
Church*

*9:00 AM Worship Service
August 21, 2016*



*A Sermon Series on
HALF TRUTHS -
LOVE THE SINNER, HATE THE SIN
AND OTHER THINGS THE BIBLE
DOESN'T SAY*