

Scripture Theme for 2023: "I have come so that they may have life and live it to the fullest"

John 10:10



**First United Methodist Church**

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Pastor Melissa Smith Nelson



# 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023~ 10:30 a.m.

**Welcome All!**

*We are pleased that you are worshipping with us either on YouTube Live or in the Sanctuary. If you are a first time visitor we have A special gift we want you to have before you leave.*

*\*Congregation, please stand if able*

**Pondering: Let our prayer time not just call for God to act around us, but to give thanks for the activity that is already happening.**

**\*BEGINNING WITH PRAISE**

**No. 131**

*"We Gather Together"*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Rudy Hyde**

Leader: We are Pilgrims on the way and when we feel lost and when we ask for a sign to show us the way out of our confusion,

**People: We remember that when we gather to worship, we find God in our midst.**

Leader: When we face obstacles and barriers that keep us from the life God has called us to,

**People: We remember that God is always at work among us, protecting and tending our well-being.**

Leader: When cannot find our way out of conflict and discord,

**People: We remember that God calls and equips us for the work of reconciliation.**

Leader: When we struggle to pay attention to how God is at work all around us,

**People: We remember God's call to sit, eat, and tell one another the stories of God's faithfulness.**

Leader: Pilgrims on the way, when we watch for signs of God among us,

**People: Let us remember that we too are signs of God's**

presence for others!

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Rudy Hyde**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Pastor Melissa**

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ. In making our confession show us the way you want us to journey in faith. . .

*A moment of silence with God for your personal prayer of confession.*

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Followed by The Lord's Prayer

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**No. 70**

*"Glory Be to the Father"*

**YOUR GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** God of love and compassion, we ask you to dedicate the tithes and offerings we bring to worship. We do this in the hope that you will do more with them than we could ever do on our own to heal the brokenness and division in our world. This we pray in the redeemer's holy name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

**Tom Hoehn**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**SCRIPTURE FOR SEPTEMBER**

**John 13:7**

*You don't understand now what I'm doing but someday you will.*

**John 13:7**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

**Yvette Cortez**

**Exodus 12:1-14**

*Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the People of God*  
*People: Thanks be to God*

**MESSAGE**

**Pastor Melissa**

**“The Journey. . .What is the Sign?”**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**No. 880**

*The Nicene Creed*

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

**\* HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP**

**No. 536**

*“Precious Name”*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**Pastor Melissa**

**Pastor:** Travelers on the journey of faith, pay attention! God is at work all around you.

**People:** May we go ready to witness the signs of God’s love in your midst and to be a sign of God’s love wherever you go.

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and Of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Submit to God and God will bring the best out of you.

**POSTLUDE**

**Tom Hoehn**