

THE PAWLING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 25, 2009 Ecumenical Sunday

**Stand as you are able † Appropriate time to be seated BOLD: In unison*

Thought for the week: “There can be change without progress, but not progress without change.” *Anonymous*

† **PRELUDE/MEDITATION** (When the organ begins playing, it is now time to quiet ourselves and be open to the presence of God).

†**WELCOME**

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS

* **OPENING HYMN** No. 577 "*God of Grace and God of Glory*"

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For God alone our souls wait in silence.
Our hope is from God, our fortress.

**People: God is our rock and our salvation.
God is our refuge and our deliverance.**

Leader: Trust in God at all times, in all places.
Pour out your hearts to the One who hears.

**People: All people are valuable in God's sight.
No one is more important than another.**

Leader: Worship God, who is ready to speak to us.
Open your lives to God's steadfast love.

**People: All power in the universe belongs to God.
Yet God depends on our faithful service.**

OPENING PRAYER

We await your message, God of all places and times. Sometimes we do not like what we hear, but we know we need to listen. Your message is inclusive and fair, while we like to make distinctions that favor us and our friends. You call us out of our comfort zones to do new things and try better ways. You direct us to reach out to people with whom we seem to have little in common. Speak your truth to us in this service so we can carry it to the places where you want us to go, to the people you are eager to reach. Amen.

DEDICATION OF NEW LEADERS (see insert)

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses (sins) as we forgive those who trespass (sin) against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the Glory forever. Amen.

† **CHORAL RESPONSE**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (page 811)

PSALTER Psalm 62 (page 787)

SPECIAL MUSIC

* **GOSPEL LESSON:** Mark 1:14-20 (page 33)

Leader: The words of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881 “The Apostles’ Creed, Traditional Version”
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (Praising God) No. 71 “*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*”

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

* †**SERMON HYMN** No. 344 "*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*"

MESSAGE "*Are You Listening?*" **Mark T. Allen**

***HYMN OF INVITATION** No. 2129 “*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*”
(During this hymn our youth will leave for youth choir)

OUR RESPONSE

PREPARING FOR OUR OFFERING

When our riches increase, we are tempted to put our trust and confidence in them. But riches are not meant to satisfy us. They are placed in our hands that we might accomplish some good purpose. Giving through the church grants us that opportunity.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* **DOXOLOGY** (Hymn of Praise and Thanksgiving) No. 95 *“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.”*

PRAAYER DEDICATING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

God of steadfast love, we pray that you will love the world through the moneys we dedicate today. We pray that your work of transformation will be carried forward by our gifts. As a church, we seek to follow where Jesus leads. As individuals, we heed the call to discipleship. Bless our efforts to fish for people—for their sakes, not our own. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** No. 398 *“Jesus Calls Us“*

***COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Leader: God sends us out into the world with good news.
God directs us to warn and to give assurance.

**People: We are disciples of Jesus Christ.
We have been commissioned and blessed.**

Leader: We go out as people who know our own weakness.
We rise above our shortcoming in the strength Christ gives.

**People: We will trust in God at all times.
We will speak God’s truth in love.**

Leader: The reign of God is drawing near to us.
It can be realized in our lives here and now.

**People: We accept God’s rule among us.
We are citizens of God’s realm.**

Amen. **Amen.**

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE (Music to send us on our way to go and serve in God’s world)



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Established in 1809

January 25, 2009

10:30 Worship Service

Pastor Mark T. Allen

Toni LaPietra, Choir Director

Richard Sills, Organist