SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
11:00 AM

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE — Steven Phillips

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT — Steve Knopik

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — John 15:12-15, Andrew Landers

Jesus said: "This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.
You are my friends if you do what I command you.
I do not call you servants any longer,
because the servant does not know what the master is doing;
but I have called you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything that I have heard from my Father."

***HYMN 693** *Though I May Speak* — Gift of Love

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain
As sounding brass and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Steven Phillips

Holy One,
We are humbled by the history of this place,
by the generosity of those who surround us,
by the love that keeps weaving your people together.

Meet us now in this hour.
Restore your people until we shine with the hope of our baptism,
and turn, as one, to serve you in the world.

(silent prayer)

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Molly Horner

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

SERMON Bruce Wismer

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 1 Corinthians 13:1-7
Andrew Landers

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels,
but do not have love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers,
and understand all mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away all my possessions,
and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind;
love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.
It does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.
It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,
endures all things.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Steven Phillips

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 debts
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION *Where Charity and Love Prevail* Text: 8th c. Latin/Westendorf/Phillips

Where charity and love prevail
There God is always found;
Drawn in and woven by God's love,
We're to each other bound.

Remember well that in our midst
Dwells Christ, the holy Son.
As members of one body joined,
In him we are made one.

Let fear among us be released,
Let all contentions cease.
Reward the differences we bring
And find a richer peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults
As we our own confess,
That we may love each other well
In Christ-like gentleness.

Love welcomes every race and creed
As rich and holy signs
Of God's own nature, full and free,
And we the grand design.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING Steven Phillips

VIDEO PRESENTATION: WOVEN IN FRIENDSHIP

HYMN 644 *Give Thanks, O Christian People* To the tune Lancashire

Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day
Who heed the call to service and make it their life's way
To go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,
To work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed.

Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years
Who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears,
To teach the ones who seek light, to guide the faltering feet,
To lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet.

Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,
Who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
To share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
To use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.

Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship
With all who trust our Savior their serving to equip:
To ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,
To magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.

* **BENEDICTION** Bruce Wismer

POSTLUDE *Allegro Maestoso from Water Music Suite* George Frideric Handel