



# Bellflower & Mt Vernon UMC

June 13, 2021

Third Sunday after Pentecost

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed,  
which is the smallest of seeds on earth;

**it grows up and becomes the greatest of shrubs,  
and the birds of the air make nests in its shade.**

Give thanks to God, whose promised reign is coming.

**Thanks be to God!**

PSALM - Psalm 20

 HYMN - #131

**We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

 DOXOLOGY - #95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow ...**

NT READING - 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

GOSPEL - Mark 4:26-34

 HYMN - #277

**Tell Me the Stories of Jesus**

SERMON

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## CONFESSION & PARDON

When we gather to worship God, we remember that we are God's people, but we have often preferred our way instead of God's. Trusting God's power to make us new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Holy God, the parable of the mustard seed teaches us that a little faith can produce great work in your kingdom. Yet we are too timid to bear the fruit of your righteousness, for we walk by sight and not by faith.**

**Forgive us, Lord; we do not uphold the poor or the oppressed. We do not advocate for the powerless or the voiceless. We do not sacrifice ourselves for the needs of our neighbors.**

**Renew us with the love of Christ so that we live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who became the seed of your righteousness in us. Amen.**

We who walk by faith and not by sight believe the good news—if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
Glory to God! Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

## POSTLUDE

## CHARGE & BLESSING

No longer regard yourselves or others from a human point of view but from God's view: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Go forth from

this place knowing that you are a new creation in Christ Jesus.

May God grant you your heart's desire  
and fulfill all your plans,  
according to God's goodwill.  
Go in peace.

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### Question for Reflection

How can you practice walking by faith and not by sight?

#### Household Prayer: Morning

The sunlight greets me in morning, reminding me that I begin this day in your presence.

The air I breathe instructs me that I live by your constant love.

Lord, I acknowledge you are my God!

I will seek your face in those I meet and make my aim to please and serve you alone, Jesus, my Lord. Amen.

#### Household Prayer: Evening

The numerous stars shine the wonder of God whose grace is beyond measure; whisper to me your abundant grace, which sustains me.

As I lay down my head, I recall Jesus saying that the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.

I imagine Jesus being with those who look for a place to lay their heads.

O God, I ask for your mercy and pray for the day when we all can sleep in shalom, trusting in your mysterious work through Jesus Christ, the Savior for all. Amen.

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (217 898 8161, [rob@methodist.cc](mailto:rob@methodist.cc)).