

# Bellflower & Mt Vernon UMC

July 18, 2021

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



You ARE NO LONGER STRANGERS AND ALIENS ...  
EPHESIANS 2

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ—

**members of God's family,**

**and brothers and sisters to one another.**

There are no outsiders here among us,

no one has any special standing or bragging rights.

**We have been brought together by the redeeming love  
of Jesus. Let's join together in worship!**

 HYMN - #361

**Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

PSALM<sup>2</sup> - Psalm 89:20–37

I've anointed David with holy oil.

I will make him strong and hold him in my hands.

The wicked won't have a chance against him.

His enemies will be sorry they tried to crush him.

**God, you are my father, and the rock of my salvation.**

His kingdom will be far and wide.

David will say to me, "You are my father, my God, and  
the rock of my salvation."

I will make him my firstborn and higher than the kings of  
the earth.

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<sup>1</sup> Christine Longhurst, re:Worship,  
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/06/call-to-worship-ephesians-2-11-22.html>

<sup>2</sup> *God's Word, My Voice, A Lectionary for Children*, Lynn Zill Briggs

I will keep my love for him forever, and I will always keep my promises.

**God, you are my father, and the rock of my salvation.**

His children will sit on his throne forever.

Unless they turn out to ignore me and my commandments: then I will punish them, but I won't take my love away.

**God, you are my father, and the rock of my salvation.**

My word is good.

David's family tree will grow forever,  
as long as the sun is in the sky.

As long as the moon lights up the night.

**God, you are my father, and the rock of my salvation.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

NT READING - Ephesians 2:11-22

GOSPEL - Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

SERMON

CONFESSION & PARDON - UMH12

PEACE & OFFERING

 DOXOLOGY - #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.**

HOLY COMMUNION - UMH13 or UMH17

 HYMN - #2158

**Just a Closer Walk with Thee**

POSTLUDE

## CHARGE & BLESSING<sup>3</sup>

We leave this place no longer strangers, but members of  
God's own family, brothers and sisters through the blood  
of Jesus Christ.

So go out with joy and confidence  
to love and serve the world,  
for we do not go alone.

Go in peace.

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<sup>3</sup> From re: worship,  
[https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/benediction-ephesians-2-11-22.htm](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/benediction-ephesians-2-11-22.html)  
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## Question for Reflection<sup>4</sup>

God promised to build King David into a “house.” Paul told the Ephesians that in Christ they would be built into “a dwelling place for God.” How is the Holy Spirit living in you?

### Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One who is Holy Three, I praise you as I rise from my bed.

As the morning dew glistens and songbirds greet the day, let my prayers go up to you. Awaken my body to the wonder of life and fill my spirit with the joy of your presence.

I seek your guidance as I prepare for activity; instruct me on what is necessary and what is fruitless so that I wisely use the gifts you give me. Let me see all people as your beloved children, some needing care, some needing forgiveness, all deserving dignity, respect, and hospitality.

If it is your will, protect me from harm. In all events, grant me the comfort of your presence so that I can faithfully obey your will.

Spare others suffering because of my sinfulness. Let me bear witness to your goodness in my words, my actions,

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and my silences so that you can use me to draw others into your presence.

Bring us together into the time when Christ Jesus comes and all sorrows are wiped away. Then all will be one and joined to you in love by the grace of our same Lord Jesus Christ, who, together with you and the Holy Spirit, is worshiped and glorified now and forever. Amen.

## Household Prayer: Evening

Majesty of holiness, thank you for another day lived in your grace. Thank you for all whom I met who showed me your kindness.

Help me to repent of my sins before I go to my bed this night. Let me receive the blessing of forgiveness and enter a period of rest with the burdens of the day lifted from me, and the comfort of your peace as a pillow for my head.

If it is your will, speak to me as I sleep, and let me remember your words as I rise to a new day, giving you thanks and praise, one God in three persons forever.

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)).

