



Bellflower & Mt Vernon UMC

September 12, 2021

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

GREETINGS¹

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

9/11 REFLECTIONS

OPENING PRAYER²

O God, Wisdom of the universe, you bear the pain of your people.

Grant us the gift of wisdom, that we may discern your way and live justly and graciously amid the struggles of this world. Amen.

 HYMN

Every Time I Feel the Spirit #404

I'm Goin'a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing #333

PSALM³ - Psalm 19

Look up to the skies and you'll see God's glory and the work that God has done. The days tell stories to each other and the nights tell each other the news. They can't use words like we do, but they still speak. They leave us messages everywhere.

You are my strength, God.

You're the one who makes me whole.

When we see a sunrise over the sea, it's like God put it to bed beneath the waters, and it makes its entrance in the morning from the deep like a runner ready for a

¹ Cover art by John Stuart, www.stushieart.com.

² <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayers.php?id=219> Reproduced from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers copyright © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts admin. Augsburg Fortress.

³ *God's Word, My Voice, A Lectionary for Children*, Lynn Zill Briggs

marathon. The sun fills every corner of the sky at noon and heats up all you can see.

God's words are just what I need. They give me reason to get up in the morning.

You are my strength, God.

You're the one who makes me whole.

God's words for me put light in my eyes and clear my head in the morning. God's words are precious to me, and like honey on my lips. They are wise and make my heart glad.

You are my strength, God.

You're the one who makes me whole.

If I can follow them, I know I'll be a better person and a better friend to all. God, keep speaking to me in ways that make me a better person. Help me pay more attention to your words than I do my own thinking, and I will be whole.

Let the words on my heart and in my mouth be good ones, God.

You are my strength, God.

You're the one who makes me whole.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

NT READING - James 3:1-12

SERMON

 HYMN - #2171

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

CONFESSION & PARDON - UMH12

OFFERING & PEACE

DOXOLOGY - #95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

HOLY COMMUNION

CHARGE & BLESSING⁴

Go, be a channel of God's peace.
Offer words the build up, not tear down.
From your abundance of good, offer only good things.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

Go in peace.

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).

⁴ Numbers 6:22-27 English Standard Version