



August 22, 2021

Rockport United Methodist Church
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13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

10:00 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (People's response in **bold**.) (Based on Psalm 119)

Leader: O God, you are our hiding place and shield.

People: Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Leader: Uphold us according to your promises that we may live.

People: We hope in your Word.

HYMN

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

UMH #117, insert

THE CHILDREN'S TIME TO LEAD US

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 6:10-20 NIV

The Armor of God

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. 19 Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris

Flute: Mickey Hopp Piano: Susan Shick

PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERN

UNISON PRAYER

As we enter into this time of prayer, O God, we offer our gratitude that you are always present to us. Instill in us a desire to so listen to others. Help us to listen with open hearts and open minds, that others might feel safe in our presence. Instill in us a spirit of serenity that others might feel accepted in your nonjudgmental grace. Free us from the tendency to label people and ideas and allow us instead to lean into mercy and kindness. In the stillness of these moments, we acknowledge the times when we have been less than kind, merciful and open. Thank you for never banning us from your

presence, loving God; help us to so love and accept others. As we pray the prayer Jesus taught the disciples...

Lord's Prayer

HYMN

“How Great Is Our God”

W&S #3003, insert

OFFERTORY

(Place your offering in the treasure chest at the back of the church, mail in your giving or go to the GIVE tab on the website:rockportumc.org)

SERMON

“Put on the Whole PPE of God”

Rev. Don Kraps

HYMN

“Standing on the Promises”

UMH #374, insert

UNISON BENEDICTION

Go forth from this place inspired to serve one another and empowered by the love of God to do so. Go forth from this place to work in company with all God's children to do God's work and God's will on Earth as it is in heaven, that in loving and serving one another the kingdom of God may come to this world through you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

SERVING THE LORD AT ROCKPORT

Pastor

Director of Christian Education/Youth

Lay Leader

Music Director/Organist

Church Office Administrator

Lector

Sound/Video

Rev. Don Kraps

Kira Cimino Holchin

Jim Spallino

Susan Shick

Sara Chapman

Kira Cimino Holchin

Scott Holchin

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

6:30pm – “Words of Life” Bible Study

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

9:30am – Rockport Community Service Project

Friday, August 27, 2021

9:45am – Al-Anon

Sunday, August 29, 2021

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

10:00am - Outdoor Worship & Live Streamed

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Betty Jones, Pearl Biscotti, Dan Rice, Vicki Moenich, Erna Guia , The Family of Nancy Chapman, Keel Arlia, Vicki Moenich, Sue P., Susan O., Sara, Holly Hausman, Velma Malecki, Julia, Vickie Smilanich, Barb Michael, Gail Stephan, Norma Golladay, Joyce, Stan P., Lynn Burris, Mary Mainwaring, Douglas MacMillan, Bill Bowers, Donny Nally, Katie Patton, Dennis, Jan Tietje and those serving our country!

ROCKPORT UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BOOK CLUB: Please join us on Monday, September 20th at 7pm outside on the church patio. We will be reading *The Whole Life* by Robert Seethaler. *A Whole Life* is a tender book about finding dignity and beauty in solitude. An exquisite novel about a simple life, it has already demonstrated its power to move thousands of readers with a message of solace and truth. It looks at the moments, big and small, that make us what we are. Hope to see you all on Sept. 20th for fellowship and discussion!

ROCKPORT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM: Rockport UMC contacted Rocky River and Fairview Park City Senior Centers seeking to do God's will by assisting senior homeowners who may lack the means to properly maintain their homes. On Aug. 11 & 18, (25th if needed) we helped an elderly woman named Maria, who lives on W. 215th street in Fairview Park. This is a bungalow house that had a broken cement pad on its front porch, water leak issues in several windows, overgrown tree branches, and debris filled gutters. What a wonderful community service program Rockport has begun. If you are interested in helping in future projects, please contact Dave Plachta at 440-829-3184.

RECOMMENDATIONS: As a reminder, due to the COVID uncertainties with the Delta Variance, and in the spirit of caring for each other (especially the immunocompromised and our unvaccinated kids), Rockport's leadership has prayerfully decided to reinstate that all people, vaccinated or not, wear masks INDOORS and SOCIALLY DISTANCE.

NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children: **GOOD NEWS KIDS!**

WELCOME BACK Wednesday, September 22nd to Good News Kids & M&M's group! Preschool 4 yrs old through 6th Graders... YOUTH ALWAYS welcome to join us! DINNER and Learning Games and Lessons! WOOHOO!

Youth: **Youth Group Mission Work**

Wednesday, September 1st, 6 to 8 p.m.

Sorting and working in the Cabinet room: building shelves. ALL HANDS on deck!

Youth Group Start Up Family POTLUCK!

Sunday, September 12th, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

PLEASE join us as we come back together as a family unit! Please bring a main dish, side, or dessert! Please bring your own place settings. Beverages will be provided!