

BERN REFORMED UCC – JULY 21, 2024



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Ellen L. Keener
"In Memory of Dale K. Keener."

THE SINGLE FLOWER is placed in recognition of Anne Burkey's
81st Birthday this coming Friday.

PRELUDE: "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" - *Liddle/ arr. Smith*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD TESTAMENT: II Samuel 7:1-14

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more. The LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 89

LEADER: I found David my servant and anointed him with my holy oil. My faithfulness and love shall be with him.

PEOPLE: I will make him my firstborn and will keep my love for him forever. My covenant with him will stand firm.

LEADER: His line shall endure forever; his throne as the sun before me!

PEOPLE: It shall stand fast for evermore like the moon's abiding witness in the sky.

NEW CENTURY HYMN #460 "GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU"

**1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you;
Beneath God's wings of love abide, God will take care of you.**

REFRAIN:

*God will take care of you, Through every day, o'er all the way;
God will take care of you, God will take care of you!*

**2. Through days of toil when heart grows fail, God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you.**

REPEAT REFRAIN

**3. All you may need God will provide, God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you.**

REPEAT REFRAIN

**4. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon God's breast, God will take care of you.**

REPEAT REFRAIN

GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and **he had compassion** for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2:11-22 Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands. Remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now, in Christ Jesus, you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

SERMON: "THE POWER OF COMPASSION"

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Compassion Hymn" - Keith & Kristyn Getty

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

A PRAYER TO SHARE IN GOD'S COMPASSIONATE HEART

Heavenly Father, You are God of all compassion. You have shown me your compassion throughout my life, and Your Word teaches me that I should respond to others in that same way. Sometimes my heart has grown a little cold and I am have lost touch with Your love and compassion for others. Please give me the compassion I need to reach all those who I may encounter. Touch my heart of stone and give me a heart that beats in unison with Your compassionate heart. Open my spiritual eyes and lead me in Your love to others. *As your have taught me to pray I say . .*

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

NEW CENTURY HYMN #400 "CHRIST THE SURE FOUNDATION"

**1 Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head & cornerstone
Chosen of our God, and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help for ever, and our confidence alone.**

**2 To this temple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, today!
With your constant loving kindness hear your people as they pray
Give your fullest benediction: grace to follow Christ "the Way".**

**3 Here renew your servants' vision, that by faith they may attain
Peace & hope, renewed compassion, strength to comfort those in pain
Tears and grief transformed to gladness in your everlasting reign.**

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Postlude on "Hymn To Joy"

-Young

Attendance last Sunday 70