

# September 27, 2020 - outdoor worship

## Gathering Song

"I Will Sing, I Will Sing"

(66 X)

## Call to Worship

L - Welcome to the community of faith, the family of God!

**P - We come seeking God's love.**

L - God's love is here for you.

**P - Help us understand how we are connected to God.**

L - We abide in Christ Jesus, in love and compassion.

**ALL - May our spirits be renewed and our connection to God be strengthened through our worship today. Amen**

## Praise Songs

"I Will Celebrate"

(61)

"He Is the King of Glory"

(68)

"His Name Is Wonderful"

(108)

"I Really Want to Worship You, My Lord"

(32)

"In His Time"

(41)

## Opening Prayer

Strengthen our hearts oh God, where our joy is lost, and our inner peace is weakened. During the times when we struggle to find direction and hope, may we find comfort in the blessing of community as we look to you, our Hope and Help. Amen.

## Scripture:

**Genesis 18:1-15**

**18** The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

<sup>3</sup> He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord,<sup>[a]</sup> do not pass your servant by. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

<sup>6</sup> So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs<sup>[b]</sup> of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

<sup>7</sup> Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

<sup>9</sup> "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

<sup>10</sup> Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. <sup>11</sup> Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. <sup>12</sup> So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' <sup>14</sup> Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

<sup>15</sup> Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh."  
But he said, "Yes, you did laugh.

**Message**

**"God Jokes"**

**Pastor Victor Harner**

**Commitment Song**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See "

(454UMH)

**Benediction**

May your day be blessed by moments of quietness, light in your darkness, strength in your weakness, grace in your meekness, joy in your gladness, peace in your stillness. May your day be blessed. Amen.

**Sending Forth Song**

"Go Out As People of God"

(69 B)



**Please remember to social distance and wear your mask!**

**Don't forget to drop off your food pantry donations and church envelopes as you leave!**