

## 06-16-2024 Worship Notes

Good morning! **Welcome** to all on this lovely, *warm* Father's Day...

I'm sure looking forward to hearing from Travis this morning about his reflections on "fatherhood", as well as from some of our youth about their service trip! It's GOOD to be together in this place where we can sing, pray, offer our praises and worship to God and also learn from one another and support each other in our joys and struggles. What are the things you bring for sharing – for prayer or praise, or to make us aware of?

### **Opportunities for Celebration and Service --**

I have both a praise and a prayer... Esther Schmidt moved on Friday from her duplex into Bethesda and that is an opportunity to praise God! This will be an adjustment for her, of course, and although she wasn't "ready" for this move, she was smiling as her daughters left her just before lunch – so she was looking forward to lunch and she was glad to have her own, special things there in her room. She will appreciate our prayers – and visits – as she makes this transition.

Others?

### **Call to Worship --** (bulletin)

### **Prayer --**

Loving shepherd, thank you for your care for us. Meet us here with your Spirit as we worship you this morning and grant to each one what is needed to be your faithful disciples. Amen.

### **Morning Prayer --**

Creator God, we acknowledge that we can neither understand nor explain you. And yet, we can see evidence of and know your presence – in your creation, in your love and the way it manifests through other people, through experiences, through Jesus and the peace his Spirit gives. On this nearly-summer Father's Day morning, we thank you for your nurturing presence – through the fathers in our lives, and others who care for us in significant and meaningful ways.

We thank you for the gift of harvest, for the satisfaction and joy that it brings to gather the fruit from the seeds that we've sown. We ask for continued safety as the harvest goes on and people become more weary and less attentive.

We thank you, God, for the gift of summer when there's a little break in the schedule for those involved with school. May they have rest and a sense of re-energizing during these weeks.

We're grateful for Bethesda, for Kidron-Bethel, Schowalter Villa , Pine Village, Paramount and other facilities where good care is given. Be especially with our loved ones who

live in these facilities and with those who care for them. We think of Esther as she adjusts to living at Bethesda. May she know your comfort and have a sense of contentment.

God of love, help us to remember that you are the God of all that has been, of all that is and of all that is to come. As we live in this world of wars and pain, of injustice and destruction sometimes we need to be reminded that you've got the whole world in your hands. Give us the courage and the wisdom to be your faithful people in the midst of this world, to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you – individually and corporately – to shine your light and show your love. In the name of Jesus, our example, we pray. Amen.

### **Offering Prayer --**

Giver and Provider of all that we have and all that we need, bless these gifts of money, and those who give them. Bless *all* the gifts that are given from you and returned to you. Gifts of time, gifts of kindness, gifts of goodness and all that is done with the intention of bringing you glory and building your kingdom, we pray your blessing. Amen.

### **Benediction --**

Go now, with the Spirit of Jesus by your side, guarding your thoughts, guiding your words, granting you wisdom, giving you joy. Go in his peace. Amen.