

Order of Worship: Sunday, February 27, 2022

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Prelude

Meditation on 'If You Will Only Let God Guide You' (Neumark) M.E. Kerrick
Gaye Herndon, organ

Welcome

Rev. Kandace Brooks

Opening Prayer

Holy and gracious God, we come as your children, longing to hear your voice of strength and mercy into a world that is often filled with anxiety and fear. Be with us and fill us with your Spirit. Give us willingness to be transformed by your Word, and the courage to answer your ongoing call to new life in Christ our Lord. AMEN

Reception of New Members (11:00 a.m. service only)

Opening Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past (UMH 117)

Affirmation of Faith

Creed of the United Church of Canada (UMH 883)

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri

Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Anthem

Seek Ye First (arr. K. Lafferty)

Youth and Handbell Choirs

Children's Message

Scripture

Joshua 1:1-9

*After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, ² "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. ³ Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. ⁴ From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. ⁵ No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. ⁶ **Be strong and courageous;** for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to*

their ancestors to give them. ⁷ **Only be strong and very courageous**, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸ This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. ⁹ **I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.**"

Sermon COURAGE: Empowered by Presence

Closing Hymn *Surely the Presence of The Lord* (UMH 328)

Closing Prayer

God who is faithful – you call us to step into the world in the strength and boldness of your power rather than our own. Remind us daily that you are present with us, for us, and through us. Let our strength empower others to walk firmly as well, your Spirit as our guide. Amen.

Postlude *Fugue on 'St. Anne'* (J.S. Bach/H. Hopson)