

A TIME OF PRAYER

Choral Call to Prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* TFWS #2193
 Prayer/Lord's Prayer
 Choral Response *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* TFWS #2193

HANDBELL ANTHEM *Joyously Resound* Lauren Delancy

SCRIPTURE Romans 14:1-12
 Matthew 18:21-35

HYMN *(please remain seated)* *Great is Thy Faithfulness* No. 140

SERMON THE GOOD LIFE: Rev. Mary Birgelaitis
 Non-Judgment

OFFERING

Call to Stewardship and Mission
 Offertory *By the Gentle Waters* Cindy Berry
 Doxology/Prayer of Dedication Hymnal, No. 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the Source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*CLOSING HYMN *Grace Alone* TFWS #2162

*BENEDICTION

Go forth with God's song in your heart,
 a song of joy and peace, a song of mercy and love.
We go forth in the grace and mercy of God in Christ.
 Go in peace!

*RESPONSE *Go Now in Peace*

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
 God will go with you each hour of every day.
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
 Know He will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in love, and show you believe.
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there watching from above.
 Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen.***

POSTLUDE *I'll Fly Away* Albert E. Brumley/arr. Brent Edstrom

*Please stand as able.

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Today's Liturgist: BQ Perrigney

Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

'For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So, the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So, my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

ALL CHURCH SUNDAY HOSPITALITY TIME is last Sunday of each month.

WEEK	ATTENDANCE					STEWARDSHIP
	8:30	10:30	IN-PERSON	VIDEO	TOTAL	
08/20	33	71	104	21	125	\$3,017
08/27	33	69	102	34	136	\$3,682
09/03	33	66	99	25	124	\$9,248
09/10	32	58	90	n/a	n/a	\$7,282

Our Fiscal Year Started July 1 Weekly Offering Needed \$6,038

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

YTD Received \$63,909 YTD Budgeted \$62,962 Hawaii Fire Relief \$1,495

HOSPITALITY TIME

Today's Hosts:

TRUSTEES

Hosts next Sunday
 September 24

ALL CHURCH



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Mon	Sep 18	6:00 PM Gerry's Quilt Class--McMillen Room.
Tue	Sep 19	9:00 AM Senior Exercise--CH, 10:00 AM Sew n Sews--MMR, 11:00 AM Chair Yoga-CH, 11 AM Rancho Burro Visit, 1 PM Bible Study--CH, 2 PM Finance-PS, 6:30 PM JOY Circle--MMR.
Wed	Sep 20	9:00 AM Senior Exercise--CH, 9:00 AM Church Workday, 10:00 AM UWF Steering--L, 2:00 PM Church Council--MMR.
Thu	Sep 21	9:00 AM Senior Exercise--CH, 10 AM Craft Workshop--MMR, 10:30 AM SPRC--PS, 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal--S.
Sat	Sep 23	First Day of Fall 🍁
Sun	Sep 24	8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service--Sanctuary.
Sun	Sep 24	10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service--Sanctuary.

Abbreviation Legend
 CH--Criswell Hall
 S--Sanctuary
 K--Kitchen
 L--Library
 Room #123
 MMR--McMillen Room #113
 PS--Pastor's Study



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September 17, 2023

10:30 AM

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

---Ephesians 4:32

PRELUDE *O, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus* Thomas J. Williams/arr. Mark Hayes

INTROIT *Awesome God* TFWS #2040

HANDBELL CHOIR *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Douglas Wagner

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God has called us here,
Calling us together in Christ.
 God welcomes all.
We come with trusting faith.
 God will bless us now.
We come in hope and joy.

*OPENING HYMN *How Great Thou Art* No. 77

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God, you welcome us into your house of worship.
 Help us know your compassion and your love.
 Fill us with your grace and mercy,
 that others may find us to be generous and loving friends.
 In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Carolyn Russell

TODAY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17 *** INQUIRER'S CLASS ***

Would you like to transfer your membership from a previous church home to this church in Arroyo Grande? Are you making a decision to join a church for the first time? Wherever you are on your faith journey you are welcome to come to this gathering and bring your questions.

2:00 PM today in the Pastor's Study for the second of two sessions.

*Thank you for worshipping with us.
 ---Rev. Mary Birgelaitis*



Sunday, September 24 Movie Night
 4:00 PM Criswell Hall. "Champions" starring Woody Harrelson. Movie & popcorn are **free**, soft drinks & candy are complimentary. Program Ministry- Sign up at Connections in Narthex.



**Saturday October 7, 10:00 AM
 Tour of 140 year old Arroyo Grande Cemetery led by Jim Gregory.**

No charge. Sign up at Connections in the Narthex. Getting to know our neighbors

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- ➡ Sunday, Oct. 29--*Watch for Trunk or Treat!*
- ➡ Fri, Sat & Sun, November 3, 4, & 5 UWF Holiday Boutique
- ➡ Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19 Mark Hayes composer workshop

TODAY we welcome back Leonard Lutz and the handbell ringers. They play special handbell music for both the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM worship services the third Sundays of the month from September through June.



Tuesday September 19, Visit to Rancho Burro Donkey Sanctuary
 10:30 AM to carpool from church, 11:00 AM at site.