

## Prelude

*Let us turn our hearts and minds to a time of silent reflection and prayer.*

## Welcome and Announcements

## Introit

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: I waited patiently for GOD; who turned to me and heard my cry, who lifted me out of the pit, out of the mud and mire; and set my feet on solid rock.

**ALL: We sing a new song! Our mouths are full of the praise of God.**

ONE: Blessed are we when we make the Lord our trust; when we do not turn aside to false gods.

**ALL: We sing of all your many wonders, O God, too many to declare them all.**

ONE: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but our ears you have pierced and a body you have prepared for us.

**ALL: We sing, "Here I am, I have come — I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is in my heart." C**

\*Hymn of Praise "Fairest Lord, Jesus" Celebration Hymnal # 87

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

Our gracious God, we come together as a diverse people with differing limitations and abilities. We want to appear strong and yet weakness is our constant companion. No matter what the outsiders of ourselves say, no matter how others perceive us as disabled or normal we are all the same in our need of You. Looking upon our hearts, you see us only as Your children. For this, we are truly thankful. Accept now our worship as an offering of praise. In the name of our Savior we pray. Amen.

## Anthem

Old Testament Lesson

Proverbs 13:16-18

New Testament Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

**\*Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

## Sermon

"The Joseph Paradox"

Rev. Bill Kren

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer:

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

## Choral Response

## Worship in Tithes and Offerings

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Rev. Bill Kren

## Communion Meditation

\*Hymn of Preparation "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Celebration Hymnal # 539

## Service of Communion

Uniting in Covenant  
Sharing of the Bread  
Sharing of the Cup

**\*Hymn of Going Forth**

Celebration Hymnal # 761

"Therefore the Redeemer of the Lord Shall Return"

**\*Benediction****\*Benediction Response**

"Make Us One"  
Make us one Lord, make us one  
Holy Spirit, make us one  
Let our love flow, so the world will know  
We are one in you, we are one in you.

**\*Postlude**

\*We invite you to stand if you are able.

**Old Testament Lesson: Proverbs 13:16-18**

16 Wise people think before they act; fools don't—and even brag about their foolishness. 17 An unreliable messenger stumbles into trouble, but a reliable messenger brings healing. 18 If you ignore criticism, you will end in poverty and disgrace; if you accept correction, you will be honored.

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**New Testament Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22**

12 Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. 13 Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work. And live peacefully with each other. 14 Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.

15 See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and all people.

ONE: The Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

**SERMONNOTES**

**October 7, 2018**

**Sermon Title**

Rev. William Kren

**Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

**The Joseph Paradox**

Dearborn Congregational Church

**Genesis 45:3-8**

<sup>3</sup>“I am Joseph!” he said to his brothers. “Is my father still alive?” But his brothers were speechless! They were stunned to realize that Joseph was standing there in front of them. <sup>4</sup>“Please, come closer,” he said to them. So they came closer. And he said again, “I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt.” <sup>5</sup>But don't be upset, and don't be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives. <sup>6</sup>This famine that has ravaged the land for two years will last five more years, and there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. <sup>7</sup>God has sent me ahead of you to keep you and your families alive and to preserve many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was God who sent me here, not you! And he is the one who made me an adviser to Pharaoh—the manager of his entire palace and the governor of all Egypt.

**1. UNFAIR ADVANTAGE (Genesis 45:4 and 20)**

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**2. UNCERTAIN FATE (Genesis 45:5)**

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**3. UNWAVERING FAITH (Genesis 45:6-7)**

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*Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your law.*