

**September 3, 2023 at 11:00 AM**  
**Worship Series: The Power of Words**  
**Message: Family Words: Hurtful or Life-Giving**  
**\*Stand in body or in spirit**

**Gathering** *Your Grace is Enough* Praise Band

**Welcome/Announcements** Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Centering Moment**

**\*Centering Song** *I'm Listening* Praise Band

**\*Opening Prayer** Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: Lord Jesus,**

**shape us to be people of compassion, kindness,  
humility, gentleness, and patience.**

**May Your Word dwell in us richly  
that the words we speak may be life-giving  
to the relationships that matter the most to us. AMEN.**

**Children's Moment** Linda Biscardo

**Prayers of People** Sarah Chambers

**Offering Song** *The Father's House* Praise Band

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**New Testament Reading** James 1:19; Colossians 3:8-10, 12-17 Allie Adams

**Message** *Family Words: Hurtful or Life-Giving* Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Invitation to Communion** Sarah Chambers

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus,

You call us to reflect Your love in all that we do and say.

Yet too many times we have used words that have hurt the people we love.

We have been slow to listen, quick to speak, quick to anger.

We have not forgiven others as you have forgiven us.

We have missed opportunities to speak love and grace into people's lives.

Forgive us, we pray.

May Your love dwell richly in us

that all our words may be shaped by compassion, kindness,

humility, gentleness, and patience. AMEN.

**Assurance and Pardon**

**Leader:** The Lord speaks words of hope, love, and forgiveness into your life.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**People:** In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**All:** Glory to God. AMEN.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

UMH 13

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**The Lord be with you.**

**And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.**

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .**

**And so, we Your people on earth**

**and with all the company of heaven**

**praise Your name and join their unending hymn:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Holy are You . . . And so, in remembrance**

**of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,**

**we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving**

**as a holy and living sacrifice,**

**in union with Christ's offering for us,**

**as we proclaim the mystery of faith.**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**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 trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**But deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Giving the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer Following Communion**

**Eternal God,**

**we give You thanks for this holy mystery**

**in which You have given Yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world**

**in the strength of Your Spirit,**

**to give ourselves to others**

**in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

**\*Closing Song**

*Take You At Your Word*

Praise Band

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Postlude**

*Take You At Your Word (Reprise)*

Praise Band