

Genesis 17:15-17; 18:1-15

Genesis 17:15-17- God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"

Genesis 18:1-15 - The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on--since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?"

The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."

But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."



FROM CHAOS TO COMMUNITY

POST-PENTECOST WORSHIP SERIES



BIRTH

CHELTENHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 18th, 2017**

**Denise Millett, Pastor
410-271-8696
Cheltenhamumc.com**



**PRELUDE
and
CANDLE LIGHTING**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our relationships with our fathers are complicated.

PEOPLE: For some of us, our father's love is like God's love -- too deep, too long, too wide, too strong to measure.

Leader: Some of our dads are here; some were never here.

PEOPLE: For some of us, God's love fills in the empty spaces our fathers left behind.

Leader: All of us are shaped by the relationship or lack of relationship with our fathers. On this day when we remember what it means to have a father or be a father, we recognize the importance of fathers in our communities.

PEOPLE: We pledge as a congregation to love and nurture the fathers among us so that they will manifest the love of God in all that they do.

Leader: Let us pray together:

ALL: Loving God, you who are our father, we thank you that you have shown us how important it is to follow your example as we grow in faith. Teach us to be obedient to your will, respecting you as children ought. Thank you for your mercy despite our disobedience. Strengthen us to stand up against the challenges of this world, honoring your name and trusting your grace. In the Name of your Son, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN: "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry" #2051 TFWS**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
#2193 TFWS

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY- "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" #95 UMH**

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING- Genesis 17:15-17; 18:1-15

***HYMN – "Faith Is Patience in the Night" #2211 TFWS**

SERMON – "Oh Yes, YOU Did Laugh!"

***HYMN – "Leading on the Everlasting Arms" #133 UMH**

LORD'S SUPPER (see insert)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE– "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #557 UMH

PASSING THE PEACE

**Hymns can be found in the TFWS – *The Faith We Sing* and
UMH- *United Methodist Hymnal***

***Please stand as you are able.**

*If you are visiting our church service today,
we want you to know that we are glad you
are here!*

*We invite **everyone** to join us down stairs
after worship for a time of fellowship.*

