

WORSHIP HANDOUT
May 2, 2021



OPENING OF WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 71

Leader: In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

People: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; turn your ear to me and save me.

Leader: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

People: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the evil and cruel.

Leader: O God, do not be far from me; O my God, make haste to help me!

People: Let my accusers be put to shame and consumed; let those who seek to hurt me be covered with scorn and disgrace.

Leader: But I will always have hope; I will praise you yet more and more.

People: I will come praising the mighty acts of the Lord GOD, I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.

*HYMN

O Blessed Spring

TFWS #2076

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

Great God of Heaven, you brought to earth your holy light to shine with your glory. Grant that we, who have stood before the mystery of your light here on earth, may receive him fully into our hearts, may walk with him always in this life, and may enjoy him completely in heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)

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 now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

Jesu, Jesu

UMH #432

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

* LESSON I

CEB

John 15:1-15

¹ “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit

unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

⁹ "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. ¹² This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you."

LESSON 2

Acts 8:5-8, 26-40

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah to them. The crowds, with one accord, listened eagerly to what Philip said, hearing and seeing the signs that he did: unclean spirits, crying with loud shrieks, came out of many who were possessed; and many others who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great rejoicing in that city.

An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying: "Rise up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert road. And he rose up and went. And look! An Ethiopian, a eunuch, an important official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure, had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, reading the prophet Isaiah.

And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and run beside his chariot." So Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit with him.

Now the passage of the scripture which he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter. Like a lamb that is silent before the shearer, he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation, justice was denied him. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?"

Then Philip began to speak, and beginning with this scripture, he told him the good news of Jesus.

And as they went along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

He gave orders to stop the chariot. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. And the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

But Philip found himself at Azotas and, as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

MESSAGE

“Racism and Resurrection”

Rev. Bob Kuntz

*HYMN

O God of Every Nation

UMH #435

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

**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.**

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives.

*BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Because He Lives (refrain only)

UMH #364

(Please be seated for the postlude).

POSTLUDE