

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday April 3rd
Fifth Sunday in Lent



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - Full to the Brim Video

*CALL TO WORSHIP

May we find courage here—

courage to follow our call, courage to live out our faith.

May we find hope here—

hope for a better world, hope that refuses to let us go.

May we find truth here—

truth that lives in sacred community, truth that lives in ancient stories.

May we find all that we seek.

And in our seeking, may we know God. Amen.

*HYMN UMH 92, For the Beauty of the Earth

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God,

sometimes my waking is a prayer.

Sometimes the song I have stuck in my head,
rumbling around on repeat, is a prayer.

Sometimes the way I talk to the children
and the way I hug the dog is a prayer.

Sometimes the way I take my phone out to get a picture of the
sunset or of the people

I love—that is a prayer.
Other times, prayer is moments like this—
heads bowed, eyes closed, hearts quiet for just a moment.
And in all of it, I trust you to hear me.
Help me to hear you in return.
Gratefully we pray, amen.

PASTORAL AND SILENT 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 TFWS 2264 Come to the Table (1 verse)

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus of Nazareth,

**we admit that often we tuck our faith into our
pockets, hiding in a place of comfort
rather than proudly declaring: yes we are Christian,
yes we believe, yes this faith has
changed me. We are so afraid of offending others or
embarrassing ourselves that we
have established rules: no faith at the dinner table,
no faith in politics, no faith with
strangers. Forgive us for whispering when we could
be singing. Forgive us for staying**

quiet when we could be part of rewriting the narrative. **We want to be brave. We want to pour out perfume over your feet. These things we pray, amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, hear this good news:

Even in our silence, **God loves us.**

Even in our fear or shame, **God chooses us.**

Even when we sin, **God wraps us in grace.**

You are free—to be bold, to be brazen, to be exactly who God called you to be.

Thanks be to God, amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (CONT) GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN God Will Take Care of You UMH 130

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God 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.

LESSON 1 Philippians 3:4b-14 CEB

If anyone else has reason to put their confidence in physical advantages, I have even more:

5 I was circumcised on the eighth day.

I am from the people of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin.

I am a Hebrew of the Hebrews.

With respect to observing the Law, I'm a Pharisee.

6 With respect to devotion to the faith, I harassed the church.

With respect to righteousness under the Law, I'm blameless.

7 These things were my assets, but I wrote them off as a loss for the sake of Christ. 8 But even beyond that, I consider

everything a loss in comparison with the superior value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have lost everything for him, but what I lost I think of as sewer trash, so that I might gain

Christ 9 and be found in him. In Christ I have a righteousness

that is not my own and that does not come from the Law but rather from the faithfulness of Christ. It is the righteousness of

God that is based on faith. 10 The righteousness that I have

comes from knowing Christ, the power of his resurrection, and the participation in his sufferings. It includes being

conformed to his death 11 so that I may perhaps reach the goal of the resurrection of the dead.

12 It's not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this

purpose. 13 Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things

behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. 14 The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus.

May God add a blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2

John 12:1-8 CEB

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. ³ Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. ⁴ Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, ⁵ "This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (⁶ He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.) ⁷ Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"Brazenly Beautiful Faith"

HYMN

The Lord Went to a Dinner

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in beauty—

**beauty pulled into being by our Creator,
beauty that catches our breath,
beauty that turns us toward awe.**

I believe in courage—

**courage to believe,
courage to stand up for the people we love,
courage to love without hesitation.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit

**who prays for us when we cannot,
who is brave for us when we are not.**

I believe in Jesus Christ

**who stood up for Mary,
who quieted the voice of critique,
who welcomed every bid for relationship.**

I believe in God.

I believe in God who believes in us.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Even in the Desert, **vs. 3 only**

POSTLUDE