

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday May 4th

OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*SONG OF WELCOME Open Doors

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Here in this place, there are no foreigners,
for all are welcome in God's house.

**P: Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.**

L: Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
for God dwells in each of us.

P: Come, let us worship in unity and love.

~ Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012*, © 2011 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Ministry Matters website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, as we draw together to worship let us have hearts like Ruth.
Hearts of dedication to you and one another. Let us live as an Easter
people who are part of the a new family, the family of God. Help us to
serve you and cling to you each and every day. Amen.

HYMN Here I Am, Lord UMH 593

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER Wide, Wide as the ocean
CHILDREN'S MOMENT

ANTHEM

TIME OF PRAYER

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

PRAYER HYMN 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus UMH 462

LESSON I Ruth 1:2-7 CEB (liturgist)

The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

³ Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. ⁷ With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

May God add a Blessing to this reading.

LESSON 2 Ruth 1:8-18 CEB

⁸ Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back, each of you, to your mother’s home. May the Lord show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. ⁹ May the Lord grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.”

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud ¹⁰ and said to her, “We will go back with you to your people.”

¹¹ But Naomi said, “Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹² Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— ¹³ would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord’s hand has turned against me!”

¹⁴ At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.”

¹⁶ But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” ¹⁸ When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

This is the Word of God for all people.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

A Spirit of Dedication

*HYMN

Christian People, Raise Your Song UMH 636

UNISON PRAYER

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us.

I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice.

I believe those around me are my siblings.

I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed.

I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it.

This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation.

I remember, "Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can."

So I live this day in devotion to you, O God,

I live this day full of, and sharing your Love. Amen.

~ drawn from the writings of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Abigail Reichard, a student at Christian Theological Seminary. Posted on the Disciples of Christ Council on Christian Unity website. <http://ccu.disciples.org/> adapted by Rev. Andrew Scott, OSL.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

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. Amen.

*BENEDICTION Song of Hope TFWS 2186

POSTLUDE