



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

with UCC Westerly

October 18, 2020 @ 9:45am*
In-person worship
broadcast live from our sanctuary

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Gathering Music – “Turn to the Lord”

[WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2020 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

PASTOR’S WELCOME

Prelude – “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

[MUSIC: Gene Clark, ©2000, Lorenz Publishing Co., All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

DEACON’S GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP --

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, eds. ©1990, The Pilgrim Press, p. 98]

The truth is, we cannot know with God’s way of knowing because we are not God. We cannot walk through life with the righteousness of God in our word and action because we are not God. All we can do is come together to share our thoughts, to read and reflect on Scripture, to sing in our hearts, to pray as God’s beloved people and to work always for God’s peace in the world.

OPENING SONG – “It Is Well with My Soul”

[WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford & MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, © Public Domain]

- 1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hath taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
Refrain: It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well,
with my soul.*
- 2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.
Refrain*
- 3. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.
Refrain*

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, eds. ©1990, The Pilgrim Press, p. 121]

We thank you, Gracious God, that you answer all who call upon your name from everywhere and anywhere. Make us bold enough to ask for your help. Enable us to persist beyond all discouragement. May our faith in you transform our troubled lives into testimonies to your love and power. This we pray through the grace given us by Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Morning Message

It Is Well with My Soul

Jonah 1:1-7

Rev. Ruth

Musical Meditation – “*Stay Here*”

[WORDS: Matthew 26 & MUSIC: Taize Community, ©1982 Les Presses de Taize. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer in whatever words are most comfortable for you

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

Tone Chimes Anthem – “Lord, I Want To Be a Christian”

[WORDS & MUSIC: African-American Spiritual. © Public Domain]

*Doxology “*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.*”

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CLOSING SONG -- “*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*”

[WORDS & MUSIC: Cesaro Gabarain, ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

1. *Lord, you have come to the lakeshore
Looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
You only asked me to follow humbly.
Refrain: O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me and while smiling
have spoken my name; now my boat’s left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side, I will seek other seas.*
2. *You know so well my possessions;
My boat carries no gold and no weapons;
You will find there my nets and my labor.
Refrain*
3. *You need my hands full of caring
Through my labors to give others rest,
And constant love that keeps on loving.
Refrain*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, eds. ©1990, The Pilgrim Press, p. 243]

We celebrate the gift of being called to serve God. Let us go forth now, accepting the ministry to which each of us is called, rejoicing in the blessing of our Creator God, celebrating our continuing renewal in the life of Jesus Christ, and trusting always in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace and be led out in joy. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Postlude – “Blessed Is the Nation”

[MUSIC: Roger C. Wilson, ©1966, Lorenz Publishing Corp., All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

Points for Reflection

Welcome to my Fall Sermon Series on hymns and how they inform and deepen our faith. Each week, you are invited to read through the week’s focus scripture and reflect on some questions intended to guide your thoughts on that text. Then, you will be invited to consider how the biblical text connects with the hymn’s verses. This week’s text: Jonah 1:1-17. (see below)

- The story of Jonah is a familiar one and many of us associate Jonah with the whale. This text explains how Jonah ended up in the whale in the first place. How did that happen? Why?
- Jonah is often known as the reluctant prophet. After reading this text, why do you think that might be?
- Why do you think Jonah assumes he can just run away from what God is asking of him? What is surprising about how the crew of the ship respond to the situation?
- Which line of the hymn do you think captures the essence of this biblical text?

If you would like a copy of my sermon for this week, kindly contact me or Carol in the office and we will send you a copy with next week’s Weekly Update.

Jonah 1:1-17

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ‘Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.’ But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. The captain came and said to him, 'What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish.'

The sailors said to one another, 'Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.' So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, 'Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?' 'I am a Hebrew,' he replied. 'I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.' Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, 'What is this that you have done!' For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so.

Then they said to him, 'What shall we do to you, that the sea may quieten down for us?' For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them, 'Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quieten down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.' Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. Then they cried out to the LORD, 'Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.' So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.