



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP *with UCC Westerly during Epiphanytide*

February 7, 2021 @ 9:45am
Broadcast live from our sanctuary

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

Prelude — *“With Wings Like Eagles”*

[MUSIC: David Paxton, ©2001 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

CALL TO WORSHIP —

[adapted from THE IONA PRAYERBOOK, Peter W. Millar, Ed. ©1998, Canterbury Press, UK. All rights reserved.]
God does not give an answer to all our questions. But, in Jesus, God enters in the heart of the questions. Be with us now, Sweet Jesus, that your questions may become the heart of our own.

OPENING SONG -- *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

[WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith & MUSIC: Welsh melody, harm. John Roberts. ©Public Domain, *Worship & Rejoice* #48]

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.*
- 2. To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest,
The true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from THE IONA PRAYERBOOK, Peter W. Millar, Ed. ©1998, Canterbury Press, UK. All rights reserved.]

Spirit of the Living Christ, we thirst for your presence; the searchings of our minds, the longings in our hearts, truly, our souls are restless. Yet you bring us wholeness; new sight to our eyes, new sounds to our ears, new hope to our hearts. O Christ, the world's true healer, come among this day and always. Amen.

A SIMPLE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Statement of Faith [from Iona Abbey Worship Book by The Iona Community]

A CELTIC PROFESSISON OF FAITH

**We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;**

**In the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,
Conflict and caring link arms
And the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God
Who sits down in our midst
To share our humanity,
A feasting God.
We affirm a faith,
That takes us beyond a safe place
Into action, into vulnerability,
Into the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change
And put ourselves on the line;
To bear responsibility, to take risks,
Live powerfully and face humiliation;
To stand with those on the edge;
To choose life
And be used by the Spirit
For God's new community of Hope. Amen.**

Words of Invitation, Explanation and Consecration

Song of Preparation – *Let Us Break Bread Together*

[WORDS & MUSIC: African-American Spiritual; arr. Carlton R. Young. © Public Domain. *Worship & Rejoice* #699]

1. *Let us break bread together on our knees (2 X)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving: **Loving God, we give you thanks for this time of refreshment at the table of Jesus. Renew our faith, refresh our souls and increase our love for each other and all of your beloved people. Fill us each day with the light of your presence showing us the way forward through life you would have us follow. Amen.**

THE MORNING MESSAGE –

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Message – Healing for a Future with Hope

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music – “Heal Me, Hands of Jesus”

[MUSIC: Herbert S. Irons, ©Public Domain; *Worship & Rejoice* #636]

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

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

Musical response

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

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.”*

[©Public Domain]

CLOSING SONG – *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

[WORDS: Cecil f. Alexander & MUSIC: William H. Jude. ©Public Domain]

1. *Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea;
Day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying "Christian, follow me."*

2. *Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION—“*Let There Be Peace on Earth*”

[[WORDS & MUSIC: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson.©1955 Jan-Lee Music. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE – “*Echo Alleluia*”

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**Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14**

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.

For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfil to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

*To request a copy of today's sermon be sent to you, kindly contact Carol in the office @ 860-599-1226 or [uccwesterly@gmail.com](mailto:uccwesterly@gmail.com).*