

# Wesley United Methodist Church

*May 24, 2020*



**Gretchen Nelson**, Pastor  
**Sylvia Krisnow**, Secretary

**Jerry Sowers**, Minister of Music  
**Cynthia Campbell**, Accompanist

**Members of Wesley**, Ministers

**The Vision of Wesley United Methodist Church is to serve  
all people with the love of Jesus Christ.**

# Order of Worship – 10:00 A.M. Service Gather and Spend Time with God Together

## Preparing your home for Worship

*Create a space that brings reminders of God's presence and love. Bright candle. Colorful flowers. Picture. Bible. Cross. Make it a joyful and prayerful place. Ask everyone in your home for suggestions. Before the gathering time, play music, turn off devices, start to pay attention to your breath as a gift from God. Pray.*

## Worshipping These 50 Days Focus Scripture

*“Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.”  
(Acts 2:46-47a)*

## Welcome and Orientation

### Gathering Centering Music

*Let the music fill your hearts and spirits as you come to recognize God's presence welcoming you in love.*

### Opening Act of Centering our Hearts as One

Pastor: Holy Living God, Heartbeat of Creation, help us to take this time to center on you, for you made us, you gave us life, and you continue to be with us every moment...  
every breath...  
every step.

Hear this assurance from God:

**[sing to the tune of Amazing Grace... if you aren't comfortable singing it, you can say it]**

**ALL: Be still, O heart, you're not alone, your beat is shared with me. Come now, and calm, and center here, you're mine, secure and free.**

Pastor: Let's take another deep breath, making sure our shoulders and any tension we feel in our bodies is letting go with the breath. Let's take another one.

Let us pick up our heart stone, sometimes called a “worry stone,” and let our touch on its surface remind us that God's touch is within us, between us, and around us.

As close and real as this object is in our hands right now,  
is how close Love is to us always.

Let us imagine letting go of our worries for now into God's heart of love.

We offer a prayer song of letting go:

**ALL: Into your care, we offer now, our worries, fears and strife. We turn to you and know you're near—Your light, our love and life.**

### Opening Prayer

### The Ascension

UMH 323

**Everliving God, your eternal Christ once dwelt on earth, confined by time and space. Give us faith to discern in every time and place the presence among us of him who is head over all things and fills all, even Jesus Christ our ascended Lord, Amen.**

### Opening Hymn “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” UMH 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise Alleluia!  
To his throne above the skies; Alleluia!  
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!  
Reascends his native heaven! Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits: Alleluia!  
Lift your heads, eternal gates; Alleluia!  
Christ hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia!  
Take the King of glory in. Alleluia!
3. See the heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!  
Yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!  
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!  
Still he calls the world his own. Alleluia!
4. See! he lifts his hands above. Alleluia!  
See! he shows the prints of love. Alleluia!  
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!  
Blessings on his church below. Alleluia!

### Glory Sightings

*Witness to God's faithfulness and love in the world. You are invited to share where have you witnessed good news. Speak aloud, write in the Facebook Comments, add into Zoom Chat.*

## Break Bread

### Blessing the Meal

### Breaking Open the Word with Scripture

#### Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53

44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah<sup>[a]</sup> is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses<sup>[b]</sup> of these things. 49 And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” 50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.<sup>[c]</sup> 52 And they worshiped him, and<sup>[d]</sup> returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53 and they were continually in the temple blessing God.<sup>[e]</sup>

#### Psalter

Psalm 47

UMH pg 781

- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
**shout to God with loud songs of joy.**
- 2 For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,  
**a great ruler over all the earth.**
- 3 Who subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.
- 4 **Who chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**
- 5 God has gone up with a shout,  
**the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
**sing praises to our Ruler, sing praises.**
- 7 For God is the ruler of all the earth;  
**sing praises with a psalm.<sup>[a]</sup>**
- 8 God reigns over the nations;  
**God sits on his holy throne.**
- 9 The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.  
**For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
who is highly exalted.**

**Epistle Reading**

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love<sup>[a]</sup> toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God<sup>[b]</sup> put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Meditation With My Heart/Eyes Open Wide**  
**Pastor Gretchen Nelson**

**Action Response**

**Sharing Christ’s Peace**

*During this season of Spacial Distancing, practicing Christ’s Peace is a witness of God’s shalom. Cross your arms or press hands together at your heat, bow to your companion while keeping eye contact. Offer this similar greeting “The Christ in me greets the Christ in you. Abundant peace.”*

**Sung Response “Open My Eyes, That I May See” UMH 454 St 1**

1 Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth you have for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unlock and set me free.  
Silently now, on bended knee,  
ready I wait your will to see;  
open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

## Breaking Open our Lives with Discussion

Our theme scripture says, “they ate their food with glad and generous hearts.” One way we can be glad and generous is to share about how we are finding strength, hope, love and peace in these days. This is part of “breaking bread” with each other as we break open our hearts to one another as well. Share today about a new way of seeing with our hearts, with an eye of heightened gratitude. What did you just see when you looked around and did looking at it with “the eyes of a grateful heart” offer you a new perspective? What else are you grateful for at this moment? What do you want to “elevate” in your commitment to make the world a better place? Complete this sentence, “I have an elevated sense of gratitude for \_\_\_\_\_.”

## Sung Response “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” UMH 325

1 Hail, thou once despised Jesus!  
Hail, thou Galilean King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us,  
thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, thou universal Savior,  
who hast borne our sin and  
shame!  
By thy merits we find favor,  
life is given through thy name.

2 Paschal Lamb, by God  
appointed,  
all our sins on thee were laid;  
by almighty love anointed,  
thou hast full atonement made.  
Every sin may be forgiven,  
through the virtue of thy blood;  
opened is the gate of heaven,  
reconciled are we with God.

3 Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,  
there forever to abide;  
all the heavenly hosts adore thee,  
seated at thy Father's side.  
There for sinners thou art  
pleading,  
there thou dost our place prepare;  
Thou for saints art interceding,  
till in glory they appear.

4 Worship, honor, power, and  
blessing,  
Christ is worthy to receive;  
loudest praises, without ceasing,  
right it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits,  
bring your sweetest, noblest lays;  
help to sing Jesus' merits,  
help to chant Immanuel's praise.

## Break Open Our Hearts With Prayer

*As we share in prayer today you are encouraged to pray aloud your joys and concerns. Complete your prayer with "Lord, In your mercy" and all the people respond "Hear our prayer". (You are invited to write your prayers in the Chat or Comment feed. Also please email them to the church office so the Prayer Team may continue to pray with you during the week).*

## The 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 forever. Amen.**

## Offering

*Giving is a spiritual practice of our faith. Sharing God's Good News through mission and ministry continue even as we are physically separate. Keep your covenant tithe, pledge, and offering with God. Consider healthy ways to be in service with your gifts and skills.*

## Praise God!

### Hymn of Praise

### “Thine Be the Glory”

UMH

#### 308

1 Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.  
Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

2 Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors, thro' thy deathless love:  
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won

## Celebrate with Jesus

## Have Goodwill

### Living the Grace of God

*So while we have our energy up, let's decide to send some energy out to the world that needs it! What message does the world need? Perhaps you will decide to create a way to let more and more people know the message of Christ, "You are not alone. I am here. You are beautiful in the eyes of God's heart."*

*What can we do to create more "heart-full-ness" in our household, in our family, in our relationships with those we cannot be with right now? How can we offer our hearts to those who are working so hard right now? How can we tell others that we have hope? Make your own plan today.*

### Blessing (inspired by Psalm 16)

God is always with you. No matter what you face, no matter what trials or hardships come your way, God is right beside you, urging you to gratitude, guiding and directing your path.

So, acknowledge your fear and your worry and know it is as true and holy as any feeling, including joy and hope and love.

Take heart! This is the heart of the matter. Amen.

*Prayers and liturgies today can be found in:*

*You have permission to adapt and to share in whatever medium necessary in this time. "Adapted from [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series) by Dr. Marcia McFee"*

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### Remember in our Prayers

**Concerns:** Lillian Hale, Tracy Jacobs, Cindi Rezac, Judi Hines, Joella, Elaina, Richard Cooper, Marty Ammerman, Mary Legere, Sylvia Santacruz, Joseph Gilday, Jerry McReynolds, Abby, Amber Stinson, Scarlet, Danny Mitchell, Bill Mee, Zach Perkins, Caleb Coates, Ernie and Carolyn Taylor, Lynnette Scalzi, Lizzie Dorschel, Jonnie Sowers, Mary Beth Collier, Ken Kemper, Ken Eyre, Linda Boyd, Makayla Hurd, Christine Mellish, Zeb Cope, Ray Krisnow, Ramona Gemeinhart, Dennis Rosier, Pete Stone, Nhung Nguyen, Karen Bowers, Janice Crumpton, Jeff Birdsall, Kevin Lykins, Joe Ames, Jim McKirdy, Nina Winfree, Pauline Desclos, Barbara Greene, Ben Stanley, Bill Warrick, Susan Nichols, Jo and Buddy Carlisle.



**Other Concerns:** The Coronavirus, the tragedies occurring in our country and around the world; police officers and first responders; all who are grieving; our seniors; our church and the entire United Methodist Church; recovery from addiction; young adults needing a closer walk with Christ; those awaiting test results; healing for those in pain.

**Nation and World:** Our nation, leaders, military, deployed troops and their families.

**Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:** Angola, Mozambique

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** **05/26** Susan Brookman, Chuck Lutes, Helen Cope, Sherry Moore, Patrick/Joyce Wentz (2012); **05/27** Clyde/Nancy Gumbert (1995); **05/29** Charlie/Becky Morris (1966); **05/30** Dale/Kathy Stumpf (1987)

*We at Wesley are glad you are here and invite you to worship with us often. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider Wesley. Pastor Gretchen would be happy to talk with you about it.*

### Announcements

**Pentecost Sunday:** May 31<sup>st</sup>. Wear red and set your worship space with shades of burning flames!

**Nightly Prayer** on Facebook Live, Monday-Friday, 7:00 PM.

**Scriptures for May 31:** Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

#### Week of 24 May 2020

Sun.	24	10:00 AM <i>Live Stream Worship Service – Zoom or Facebook</i>
Mon.	25	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Tues.	26	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Wed.	27	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Thurs.	28	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i> 7:00 PM <i>Men’s Bible Study – Zoom</i>
Fri.	29	7:00 PM <i>Prayer Time –Facebook</i>
Sun.	31	10:00 AM <i>Live Stream Sunday Worship Service – Zoom or Facebook</i> <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>

<b>OFFERING</b>	General Fund: Received: \$2,972.00– Needed each week: \$4,876.00
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**Secretary Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. **Phone:** 757-838-3044  
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