

FirstCHURCH

First United Methodist Church of Boulder

1421 Spruce Street
Boulder, CO 80302
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www.fumcboulder.org

*"... Seeking justice,
loving kindness, and
walking humbly with
God!" ~ Micah 6:8*



“Living into a More Beloved Community through Preparing the Way for Yeshua”

Sunday, June 7, 2020

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

As it is said in the book of the prophet Isaiah, “A voice cries out in the desert: Prepare a way for the Lord, clear a straight path for him.” ~ Q 1

PRELUDE

“Siciliano in D minor”
Gerald Holbrook, organ

John Stanley (1713-1786)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship this morning as we celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday!

Stephanie Moffitt

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Stephanie Moffitt

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Prepare Ye” from *Godspell*

Stephen Schwartz

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth Irvin

As United Methodists, we affirm the Wesleyan Quadrilateral:

The living core of the Christian faith is revealed in scripture, illumined by tradition, confirmed with reason and made real in personal experience.

(The United Methodist Book of Discipline)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Q 1, 2; Matthew 3:1-3; Luke 3:2b-4

In those days the word of God came to John the Baptist, the son of Zechariah, in the desert of Judea. He went throughout the Jordan area, calling for baptism and a change of heart leading to the forgiveness of sins. As it is said in the book of the prophet Isaiah, "A voice cries out in the desert: Prepare a way for the Lord, clear a straight path for him."

MESSAGE

Preparing the Way

Matthias Krier

Possible questions for breakout rooms during Coffee & Conversation:

What does it mean to prepare the way for Jesus?

Where is God leading you in having a change of heart?

CANDLE LIGHTING COMMUNITY PRAYERS

You are invited to light a candle in your home as you lift up a prayer for family, community or world. You may also use the chat function on Zoom to share your prayers with our community. Please don't forget to blow out your candle at the conclusion of today's service.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Praeambulum No. 3 in D minor"
Gerald Holbrook, organ

Heinrich Scheidemann
(1595-1663)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREETING

The spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks for this season of the Spirit!

We are grateful for this season of light and vitality!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God who enlivens with your breath of life,
who surrounds us with the fire of your spirit,
we give thanks for the many ways we touch and see,
taste and hear and smell your presence in our midst.

God who enlivens with your breath of life,
we give thanks that you are not only with us in the warmth of joy, hope and renewal,
but also when our fires run low in our weariness, pain, and sorrow.
We are grateful for the ways you tend the embers of our souls wherever we find
ourselves today.

God who enlivens with your breath of life,
we give thanks for the example of Jesus,
who kindled the inner fire of those around him,
becoming an ever-present example that death and violence, hatred and injustice may
leave marks but never have the final word.

With this knowledge in our hearts we say together these ancient words:

**Sacred God of blessing and wisdom,
thanksgiving and dignity,
power and strength,
the earth and heavens reveal your radiance.
Blessed is the one who reflects your name.
Heal us, enliven us, bring us hope.**

On the night Jesus gathered with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke
it, and passed it among them saying, “This is my body, now a part of you. Do this to
remember me.” In the same way, he took a cup also, gave thanks, and passed it among
them, saying, “This cup is the new covenant—to love. Do this, as often as you drink it, to
remember me.”

With these actions of sharing, Jesus’s followers recognized him when he was raised; for
each time we take, eat, and remember together we become Christ’s living body.

**Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ is with us always.**

May the breath and spirit of God infuse this bread and cup, and enter us, surround us,
and connect us with one another. We give thanks that we can share this sacred meal as
people have shared it for 2,000 years and continue to share it around the globe today.
May this bread and this cup be a reminder of the persistence of life in the face of death,
hope in the face of despair, love in the face of violence and hatred.

Amen.

SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)

Our Mother and Father on Earth and in Heaven, sacred be your names. Your kin-dom come, your 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. Do not lead us to trial but rescue us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION (in Unison)

God who enlivens with your breath of life, who kindles the fire of the spirit, we give thanks for this sacred meal: for the way it connects us with each other today; for the way it binds us with those who have come before; and for the way it unites us with those yet to come. May we take this connection into the world doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly as we work together for the renewal of your world. Amen.

Season After Pentecost Liturgy © 2018 Celene Lillie

HYMN 92 “For the Beauty of the Earth” (*Dix*) Conrad Kocher, 1838

BENEDICTION

Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
With all the people you can
As long as ever you can.
Amen.
Amen.

POSTLUDE “Cornet Voluntary in G” Starling Goodwin (18th C)
 Gerald Holbrook, organ

*This week, as we all live into the things around us,
let's remember to offer peace to one another.*

After worship, please stay on Zoom and join us for Coffee Hour!

Please watch your email, and check our website and Facebook page, to find out about our plans for future church services and gatherings as the coronavirus pandemic continues to develop.

Sunday, June 14, 2020
Scripture Lesson: I Corinthians 13:11-13
Speaker: Matthias Krier
Message: Farewell Message

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, 6/11: ONLINE 11th Hour Calling Bell Ringing ~ The 11th Hour Calling bell ringing for climate change action has moved online! Ringers are now gathering on Zoom on the 11th day of each month. This month, folks will gather at 10:30 am on Thursday, June 11, and close at 11:12 am. Bring a noise maker/sacred instrument to your device to share. If you'd like to participate, please email Mary Beth Downing, and she will send you the Zoom meeting information: 11thhourcalling@gmail.com.

MOJO (Mission Outreach Justice Opportunities) and Information for those Interested in Social Justice and the Environment ~ Here are this week's offerings! Questions or comments to Brenda Mehos, MOJO Co-Coordinator: bmehos@comcast.net.

June is Pride Month: 2,000 small rainbow flags are available for the public due to a grant from the Boulder Library Foundation and a gift from an anonymous donor. If you would like a small flag to display at your house, pick one up at the Boulder Public Library at 10th and Arapahoe in Boulder from 10am-4pm all days except Wednesday (1 pm-7 pm). The city was able to find funds to at least touch up the three downtown rainbow crosswalks as well, which had faded in the year since they were painted. The cancelled June 4 downtown Pride Month launch will be rolled into Out Boulder's virtual Garden Party on June 7th: <https://www.outboulder.org/gardenparty>.

While our ambitions for a large Rainbows Over Boulder month-long celebration have been diminished, they have not ended. This week, downtown businesses will receive free rainbow flags to proudly display in their windows during June's Pride Month. If you see a store or restaurant showing the rainbow flag, please thank them.

Harvest of Hope Food Pantry in Boulder: Plant it Forward!

Harvest of Hope would love to accept your surplus produce! When planning your garden this year, plant it forward by growing an extra row or two for the pantry. Too many zucchinis or tomatoes? Bring them on in! The folks who shop at the pantry love fresh fruits and vegetables.

Other High Need Items Include:

Canned chicken, Ramen noodles, 500 ml bottled water, condiments, healthy snack bars in family size boxes, razors, feminine hygiene products, travel size toiletries, single toothbrushes, and disinfectant wipes. Harvest of Hope cannot accept food that has

already been opened, bulk items needing repackaging, or anything made outside of a commercial kitchen. Drop off food donations Monday-Friday at 2960 Valmont St. in Boulder. See www.hopepantry.org for more information on volunteering.

Looking for Ways to Fight Racism and Hate? Here are some good sites:

Southern Poverty Law Center - www.splcenter.org

The American Civil Liberties Union - www.aclu.org

Color of Change - www.ColorOfChange.org

Start a Book Club or suggest these titles to one you're already part of:

White Fragility: Why It's So Hard to Talk About Racism by Robin Diangelo

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks about Race by Jesmyn Ward

You can now watch the excellent movie, *Just Mercy*, for free! Click this link:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/how-to-watch-just-mercy-free-streaming-rental>

June Mission of the Month: Online Compassion Camp ~ Our June mission giving will benefit this year's online Compassion Camp, which we will offer July 27-31. Camp Director Stephanie Moffitt is planning this virtual camp in place of Arts for Kids' Souls Camp this year, and will be providing each family with a camp materials kit for use at home. Your gift will help with supplies for the kits, and will also support camp scholarships so lack of funds do not prevent any child from participating. Please consider giving generously so that children can enjoy a great camp experience this summer! Mail your check made payable to First United Methodist Church to the church office; please write "June Mission of the Month" in the memo line. You can also make your gift online via our website: <https://fumcboulder.org/about/donating/>. Choose "June," and enter your desired amount. Thank you!

UMW (United Methodist Women) News ~ UMW is still busy making masks for Boulder County Justice Services. We have made around 500 masks and are trying to make sure the most vulnerable in the Boulder community have masks. We also sent some masks to the Navajo Tribe, which has the worst outbreak of Covid 19 in the country. The need for masks is not diminishing, but increasing. If you are interested in helping, please email Connie Takamine; also if you need a mask (which is mandatory for many businesses/public places), please let her know. Through all this, if you have not yet responded to your Pledge to Mission letter, please consider making a financial contribution. We still are supporting missions around the world. Most all conference activities have been suspended through the summer. We still hope to have our summer tea at Ruth Irvin's home; watch for further details.

When Will the Church Re-Open? ~ You may be wondering when we will re-open our church building. A task force headed by our Building Manager, Keith Heinzmann,

has started work on the re-launch. Bishop Karen Oliveto formed a task group that developed guidelines for churches to re-open their buildings, and any re-launch will be done in stages. Probably the earliest may be late summer, which will be dependent on the state of the pandemic in Boulder. However, the Conference is emphasizing that social distancing and mask wearing be maintained, and that we follow the Safer at Home guidelines that people over 65 not attend in-person worship. It has been found that church services are sources of the spread of the coronavirus. Even when we are able to meet in-person, we will continue with online access to worship services. We are taking this time-out opportunity to do renovations to the church building. While we would have liked to share more information with you all, since this has been a slow-moving process during a time of no in-person communication, we have not been able to do so. But everyone will come back to a sparkling church building!

Giving to FUMC During the Pandemic ~ Just a reminder that FUMC can still receive your offering gifts to support God's work in the world, even in these unsettling days. Mail is still being checked weekly in the church office, so you can mail checks, made payable to First United Methodist Church, to 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. You can also give online via our website:
<https://funcboulder.org/about/donating/>.

Calling All Musicians ~ If you would like to participate in our Sunday Zoom Services by contributing your musical talent, please contact Gerald Holbrook, our Director of Music: geraldholbrook99@gmail.com. All it entails is creating a video of you making music, and sending it to Gerald. This can be vocal or instrumental, or both. Solo, duet, trio, ensemble....everything is possible.