

*First***CHURCH**
First United Methodist Church of Boulder

1421 Spruce Street Boulder, CO 80302

303.442.3770

www.fumcboulder.org

10:30 am Worship

Sunday, August 9, 2020

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“To a Poor Old Woman”
by William Carlos Williams

*munching a plum on
the street a paper bag
of them in her hand*

*They taste good to her
They taste good
to her. They taste
good to her*

*You can see it by
the way she gives herself
to the one half
sucked out in her hand*

*Comforted
a solace of ripe plums
seeming to fill the air
They taste good to her*

PRELUDE

“Homeward Bound”

Arr. Marta Keen

Tessa Espinosa, soprano; Kyle Griffin, piano

THE CALL

Rev. Mike Mather

SONG “I will take the cup of freedom” Cynthia Cummins/Chris Walker
Jason Malmberg, vocals

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

Pastor: The cup of freedom is offered.
We open our hands.
We see God’s power all around us.
God IS with us.
God IS with the world.
It IS right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of all that is:
 sun, moon and stars that shine on each of us around this planet,
 flora and fauna that bud and bloom with the diversity of climates,
 human and animal species in colorful array.

Liturgist (Spencer Mickelberry): You formed each in your image,
a convergence of miracle and mystery.
and called it all good.
Unable to comprehend such grace, we turn from you.
But your love overcomes our fear
 and we are met time and again with your abiding presence.

And so,
with all creatures of this earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn (spoken):

**People: Holy , holy, holy, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:22-33

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)

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.

But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

*Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him
to preach good news to the poor,*

to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

Liturgist: By the baptism of his suffering , death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

LESSONS FROM THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH Kelli McLaughlin

Pastor: When Jesus ascended,
he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

Liturgist: On the night he was arrested,
he was at the table with his friends.
He invited them... and he invites us,
to remember him whenever we break bread and share a cup.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Encourage Yourself” Traditional Spiritual
Asha Romero, soprano by Donald Lawrence

SERMON De’Amon Harges and Michael Mather
How Do You Sing the Lord’s Song in a Strange Land: Letting Go

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

Pastor: This is the bread given of the earth,
receive of the fields, it will set you free!
This bread of life, I will take up
and I will call on the name of God!

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

Pastor: This is the cup given of the earth,
receive of the vine, it will set you free!
This cup of freedom, I will take up
and I will call on the name of God!

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

Pastor: When his disciples thought he was dead and gone,
he met them and walked with them on the road to Emmaus,
and when he broke bread with them,
their eyes were opened to the gift of ongoing life
everywhere around them.
He invited them... and he invites us,
to keep walking together with all peoples of the world,
and to keep offering bread for the freedom of all.

Liturgist: And so,
in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

***People:* Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come
again!**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Liturgist: Let them be for us Christ,
so that we may bear witness to the presence of Christ in the world.

Pastor: By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at that heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ

with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen!**

**I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.
I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother and Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names.
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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

This bread reminds us that any life, no matter how broken, or sick, or distorted it
may become, can be made whole again.

THE POURING OF THE CUP

The cup reminds us that any life, no matter how empty, or lonely, or isolated it
may become, can be filled again. These are the gifts of God, for the family of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Moffitt

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Joy Song”
Glenna Briant, piano

Rend Collective

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

**THANK YOU to those who contributed
their time and talents to our service today:**

Glenna Briant, Tessa Espinosa, Kyle Griffin, De'Amon Harges,
Jason Malmberg, Kelli McLaughlin, Spencer Mickelberry, and Asha Romero

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

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

Join Us for Our Service on August 16, 2020

10:30 am MDT on Zoom

Speaker: Michael Mather

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Digital Dinners This Month ~ You should have received an email about the upcoming series of Digital Dinners with Mike this month. These online gatherings will be chances for him to hear from the parish about the things that are meaningful to us. While we are meeting, feel free to have some dinner, make some dinner - let this be a great time for sharing stories and getting to know one another! **As of this writing, all remaining Digital Dinners still have space:** 8/12 Children and Families, 8/13 Social Justice, 8/17 Adult Education, 8/19 Community, 8/20 Reconciling Ministries, and 8/25 Building/Property. Each dinner begins at 6:00 pm, and wraps up by 7:30 pm. Sign up for the Digital Dinner of your choice by emailing the church office: office@fumcboulder.org. Sign ups close 48 hours before each dinner. As the date of your Digital Dinner approaches, Church Administrator Jessica Harbeson will email you with the Zoom meeting information. Join the fun!

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://fumcboulder.org/about/donating/>.