

RESTORED Finding Redemption in Our MESS



Addressing the Mess in Your Home

March 29, 2020

The only requirement for a deeper friendship with God is showing up with a heart open and ready to receive. –Joanna Weaver



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Fugue in C Major* Handel

Call to Worship

We come together to worship, longing for tenderness
because this world can be hard.

We come longing for light
because our lives are cast in the shadows.

We come desperately needing direction.

Fill us this morning with your peace:

Your Spirit is our peace and our path.

Hymn *When Hands Can No More Reach and Hold*

**When hands can no more reach and hold,
Or arms no more embrace,
When lives must now be held apart
By yawning empty space;
Great God, now give your children hope
In place of sad despair,
And hold our hearts in your good peace,
Our breaking souls repair.**

**God, teach us in this lonely time
To hold in yearning prayer
Those lives and souls who touch our own,
And give them to your care.
Let not our gnawing fear take hold
And make us feel alone,
But teach us, Lord, to hold this truth
Until this scourge is gone:**

**Those souls we've been loved by and love
Are still with us this day;
That friendship touch is not denied,
Nor is it gone away.
Help us reach out, though not with hands
Or arms or holy kiss,
To all those friends and loved ones dear
Whose presence now we miss.**

**Our prayers for health and wholeness hear,
And give our souls release
To hope against that day when we
Can reunite in peace.
Sustain our souls, set free our minds,
Renew our battered love
On earth, e'en now in solitude,
As in your realms above.**

Charles Spence Freeman, 2020

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, we confess that we are so distracted by
our anxiety, our confusion, our fears, and our pain. We
are like pent-up Marthas this morning, eager to run and
do, yet we are forced to sit and wait. Help us use these
days to be still and listen and hear, like Mary. Remind
us that there is no better place than being with you and
time with you is always well spent. Thank you for meeting us
where we are. Help us to feel your forgiving and heal-
ing presence as we lay our hearts open before you...**

Silent Confession of Our Sins and Shortcomings

Words of Assurance

God meets us as we are and changes us with the love
of Christ. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Signs of Peace and Unity in Christ

A Modern Affirmation of Faith

(written by Professor Edwin Lewis, Drew. U.)

**We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom,
power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.
We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of
our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin
and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine
presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual
remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength
and help in time of need. We believe that this faith
should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth
in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the
kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD is saying: Arise, lay out the lawsuit
before the mountains; let the hills hear your voice!
Hear, mountains, the lawsuit of the LORD! Hear, eternal
foundations of the earth! The LORD has a lawsuit against
his people; with Israel he will argue. "My people, what
did I ever do to you? How have I wearied you?
Answer me! I brought you up out of the land of Egypt;
I redeemed you from the house of slavery. I sent Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam before you. My people, remember
what Moab's King Balak had planned, and how Balaam,
Beor's son, answered him! Remember everything from
Shittim to Gilgal, that you might learn to recognize
the righteous acts of the LORD!" With what should I
approach the LORD and bow down before God on
high? Should I come before him with entirely burned
offerings, with year-old calves? Will the LORD be
pleased with thousands of rams, with many torrents of
oil? Should I give my oldest child for my crime; the fruit
of my body for the sin of my spirit? He has told you,
human one, what is good and what the LORD requires
from you: to do justice, embrace faithful love, and
walk humbly with your God.

What does this scripture say about God?

About human beings?

About God's relationship with human beings?

Message for Growing Christians

Music

Amazing Grace

trad.

Scripture Luke 10:38-42

While Jesus and his disciples were traveling, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him as a guest. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his message. By contrast, Martha was preoccupied with getting everything ready for their meal. So Martha came to him and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to prepare the table all by myself? Tell her to help me." The Lord answered, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part. It won't be taken away from her."

Song Give Us Clean Hands Charlie Hall

Verse

**We bow our hearts, we bend our knees,
oh, Spirit come make us humble.
We turn our eyes from evil things,
oh, Lord, we cast down our idols.**

Chorus 2X

**Give us clean hands,
give us pure hearts,
let us not lift our souls to another.**

Bridge 2X

**And O God, let us be
a generation that seeks,
that seeks Your face
O God of Jacob.**

Message Addressing the Mess in Your Home

Prayers of the People (a bidding prayer)

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Offering Jesus the Very Thought of Thee arr. Jones
Your giving changes lives. It produces many life-affirming and Christ-honoring resources through UMC Communications. Go to umcom.org to see the ways churches are supported. Type "UMC Videos" into the youtube search engine to see inspiring stories of faith. Thank you for your generosity. Give online, through text, or through the mail.

Offering Response

**In my Life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.
In our world, Lord...**

Offertory Prayer

Hymn Lord, You Teach Us To Be Humble

**Lord, you teach us to be humble
in the things we do and say
So that others will not stumble
or—discouraged—turn away.
For a faith that's lived for glory
full of bragging, full of show—
Cannot tell the gospel story
that your people long to know.**

**How do other people greet us
as we journey through our days?
Do we hope that they will meet us
with a word of thanks or praise?
Do we seek congratulations
for the kind of life we lead?
Do we want their admiration
for the things that we believe?**

**May we never burden others
with a faith that's hard to bear.
Make us kind to one another;
make us humble in our prayer.
As we give up seats of honor,
may we give you glory, too.
Lord, you teach us to be humble;
may we humbly follow you.**

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Benediction

Launch into this week in peace, and in Jesus's name live as God's people –

**the humble who make others proud,
the poor who have riches to share,
the weak who help others be strong,
the empty who overflow with loving kindness.**

And the large love of God, the treasure of Jesus' grace, and the buoyant health of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever. Amen.

Postlude Let Me Be Thine Forever arr. J.C. Bach

Bold text indicates congregational response.

A Thought to Help You Endure

"Tonight before falling asleep think about when we will return to the street, when we hug again, when all the shopping together will seem like a party. Let's think about when the coffees will return to the bar, the small talk, the photos close to each other. We think about when it will be all a memory but normality will seem an unexpected and beautiful gift. We will love everything that has so far seemed futile to us. Every second will be precious. Swims at the sea, the sun until late, sunsets, toasts, laughter. We will go back to laughing together. Strength and courage." - Pope Francis

Worship Participants

Message:	Minister of Worship and Music:
Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks	Mike Muzzo
Liturgyists:	Praise Team Director:
Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley,	Cory Smith
Rev. Allen Keller,	Organist: Steve Campitelli
Rev. Mercedes Case	

Things to Do at Home

Looking for Something to Do While Physically Distancing at Home?

- For spiritual time and prayer at home go to upper-room.org/ Check out Pauses for Lent-New Every Morning among other resources.
- For fun without the cost or travel catch your favorite Disney Parks rides at [youtube.com/user/SocalAttractions360](https://www.youtube.com/user/SocalAttractions360).
- Connect with friends, set up a playdate for your children and their friends, visit someone far away by using Zoom, a great free virtual meeting spot. Go to zoom.us/ to get started.
- This week enjoy a faith-building podcast, Compass, a podcast from the UMC whose goal is to help you find Christ in day-to-day life. <https://www.umc.org/en/rethink-church/compass-podcast>
- Consider giving to their Go Fund Me campaign to help Arch St. UMC in Philadelphia in Philadelphia feed 150-200 homeless neighbors each week. [charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/grace-cafe1](https://www.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/grace-cafe1)