



January 23, 2022 - Livestream  
United Methodist Women Sunday

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diane Gattone

PRELUDE

*Cortège*

Lili Boulanger  
Kathy Schilling, violin

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Daphne Chen

Leader: With Isabella Thoburn and Annie Pascoe Norton, sisters strong and wise

**People: we praise you, O God our Light.**

Leader: With Hester Williams and Molly Moore, aunties brave and kind

**People: we praise you, O God our Life.**

Leader: With Mellie Perkins and Thelma Stevens, daughters determined and faithful

**People: we praise you, O God our Love.**

Leader: Sing praise to God whose power and love sustain us.

**People: With saints above and sisters beside us,  
we sing praise and glory to the God of our salvation!**

\*Opening Hymn #126

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

***Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory.***

***The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.  
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory.***

***Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,  
that earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:  
To God all praise and glory.***

***Let all who name Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:  
To God all praise and glory.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Come, Holy Spirit, and speak to us  
through the reading of scripture.**

Jacqueline Blackwell Leonard

**Shine the light of Christ in our hearts,  
and show us how to be your servants of hope.  
Amen.**

First Lesson

Isaiah 42:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon her; she will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>She will not cry or lift up her voice, or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed will not be broken, and a dimly burning wick will not be quenched;  
she will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>She will not grow faint or be crushed until established justice is on the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for her teaching.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the Lord that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

TRIO

*Ha Shalom*

Greg Gilpin

Kate Roberts, Regina Walker, sopranos  
Amy Cuomo, alto; Kathy Schilling, violin

Ha shalom le maan ha amin.

Ha amin le maan ha shalom.

Peace shall be for all the world.

All the world shall be for peace.

\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 146

Lyn Berkebile

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have being.**

Leader: Put not your trust in princes,  
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**People: Their breath departs, they return to the earth;  
on that very day their plans perish.**

Leader: Happy are those whose help is in the God of Jacob,

**People: whose hope is in the Lord, their God,**

Leader: who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;

**People: who keeps faith for ever;  
who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.**

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free;

**People: the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.**

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

**People: the Lord loves the righteous.**

Leader: The Lord watches over the sojourners,

**People: and upholds the widow and the orphan;  
but the Lord brings the way of the wicked to ruin.**

Leader: The Lord will reign for ever,  
your God, O Zion, from generation to generation.

**People: Praise the Lord!**

HYMN OF PRAYER #382

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

v. 1-2

***Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after thy will,  
while I am waiting, yielded and still.***

***Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Search me and try me, Savior today!  
Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,  
as in thy presence humbly I bow.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Diane Gattone

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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.**

HYMN #382

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

v. 3-4

***Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!***

***Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.  
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Amy Sell

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Song of Miriam*

music: Elaine Hagenberg  
text: Rabbi Ruth Sohn  
Women of the Cathedral Singers  
Kathleen Custer, director

I stand at the sea and turn to face the desert stretching endless and still.  
My eyes are dazzled, the sky brilliant blue. Sunburnt sands unyielding white.  
My hands turn to dove wings. My arms reach for the sky, I want to sing.  
To sing the song rising, ah, I stop. Where are the words? I stop. Where the melody?  
In a moment of panic my eyes go blind, can I take a step without knowing a destination?  
Will I falter? Will I fall? Will the ground sink away from under me?  
The song still unformed, how can I sing? To take the first step, to sing a new song,  
to close one's eyes and dive into unknown waters. For a moment knowing nothing risking all.  
But then to discover the waters are friendly. The ground is firm, the song rises again.  
Out of my mouth come words lifting the wind, I hear for the first time, the song in my heart.

\*DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

\*GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 5:13-20*

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Light of the World*

Amy Sell

HYMN #569

*We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

v. 1

***We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.***

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.***

CONSECRATION OF UMW OFFICERS

Diane Gattone

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #569

*We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

v. 2-4

***We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,  
a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword, and shatter the spear and sword.***

**Refrain:**

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.***

***We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above  
hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.***

**[Refrain]**

***We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod,  
that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God, might come to the truth of God.***

**[Refrain]**

\*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

Amy Sell

POSTLUDE

*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

arr. J. Blersch

Today's call to worship remembers the witness and legacy of some of the foremothers of United Methodist Women:

- Isabella Thoburn (1840-1901) Women's Foreign Missionary Society: In 1870 she founded a girls' school in Lucknow, India where she served for 30 years. The school is now the Isabella Thoburn College for women.
- Dr. Annie Pascoe Norton (1846-1926) Women's Foreign Missionary Society: She was the first medical missionary sent to the Philippines in 1905 and served for 26 years. She started the first Women's Christian Temperance Union there.
- Hester Williams (1862—na) Woman's Home Missionary Society—A former slave, "Aunt Hester" established several schools for girls and women in and around Baton Rouge, Louisiana in the 1880s.
- Mary Wall Moore (1869-1960) Woman's Home Missionary Society—From 1901-1911, "Aunt Molly" was the corresponding secretary for the Society in the Southern Illinois Conference. During this time she started ministering in the stockyard district of East St. Louis. She established the Slavonic Mission, which is now the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House.
- Mellie Perkins (1877-1924) Women's Missionary Association—A deaconess in the United Brethren Church, Perkins established the McCurdy Mission School in New Mexico in 1912.
- Thelma Stevens (1902—1990) Woman's Missionary Council—A white southern from Mississippi, Stevens worked to eliminate the segregated Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church. As the head of staff of the Department of Christian Social Relations of the Women's Division of Christian Service she was instrumental in the creation of the first Charter of Racial Policies in the denomination.

The various missionary societies listed above were some of the predecessor agencies of what became the United Methodist Women in 1968. Thoburn College, Davis House and McCurdy Schools are still in operation today and are supported by UMW as national and international missionary institutions.

This week's worship leaders:

Diane Gattone, Pastor of Care & Nurture

Amy Sell, Minister of Discipleship & Formation

John Hague, Jack Haefling & Allen McCormack, Audio Visual

Heather Hinton, Organist