

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

February 21st, 2021, First Sunday of Lent, 8:30 (zoom) & 10 am (live-stream)

All members of this parish form the ministry team in witness of Christ.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING PRAISE: Judith Kuhn, Organist

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rev. Steve Bascom, Pastor

The United Methodist Church of Auburn is an intergenerational Christian Community whose mission is to embody Christ's love through a commitment to serve God by fulfilling the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of our congregation and of our local and global communities.

PRELUDE: "Little Prelude" J. S. Bach Handbell Choir
William Buzza, Directing

GATHERING PRAYER:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: God is good.

People: All the time!

L: Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the son of God,

P: let us hold fast to our confession.

L: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

P: but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

L: Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,

P: so that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

All: Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me; help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.

HYMN: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" UMH #301

Caroline Coffin, Soloist

Jesus keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, O trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
There the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. (refrain)

Near the cross, O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. (refrain)

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. (refrain)
(Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1869; Music: Wm H. Doane, 1869, UMH, Public Domain)

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:9-15 Carol Christopoulos, Liturgist
Caroline Coffin, Liturgist

HYMN: "Here Am I" TFWS #2178

Here am I, where underneath the bridges in our winter cities
homeless people sleep.

Here am I, where in decaying houses little children shiver,
crying at the cold. Where are you?

Here am I, with people in the line-up, anxious for a handout,
aching for a job.

Here am I. when pensioners and strikers sing and march together,
wanting something new. Where are you?

Here am I, where two or three are gathered,
ready to be altered, sharing wine and bread.

Here am I, where those who hear the preaching
change their way of living, find a way to life. Where are you?

(Words: Brian Wren, c1983 Hope Pub. Co. Music: Daniel Charles Damon, c1995 Hope Pub. Co., TFWS, CCLI #2986523)

MESSAGE: "Generosity in Drought"

Text: 1 Kings 17:1-16

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: "Canticle of Glory" (10 am only)

Judith Kuhn, Organist

*We invite you to invest in God's mission and ministry as it flows
through the United Methodist Church of Auburn into human lives!*

DOXOLOGY: UMH #94

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 up-lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623, UMH, Public Domain)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

O Holy One, we make our offerings at this time in both gratitude and in seeking, in both remembering and hoping, in both fear and faith. Regardless of what is going on in our lives right now, receive these gifts as our way of praising you. Amen.

(Herb Mather, c2002 General Board of Discipleship, W&S)

CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE DEPART TO SERVE

HYMN: "Cuando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)" UMH #434

When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,
when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,

Refrain

then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.

When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
when we love though hate at times seems all around us, **(refrain)**

When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
when our lips can speak no words other than true,
when we know that love for simple things is better, **(refrain)**

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,
when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, **(refrain)**

(J. A. Oliva & Miguel Manzaon, c1971 Ediciones Paulinas; trans., c1980 UM Pub. House, UMH, CCLI #2986523)

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: "Sing, O Heavens" Judith Kuhn, Organist
Online Technician: Len Lednum

UMC of Auburn

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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

439 Park Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210, 207-782-3972

**A Reconciling Congregation*



Rev. Stephen Bascom, Sr., Pastor

Worship Schedule: Sunday 8:30 am (Zoom) & 10:00 am Online

February 21, 2021