

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

March 7th, 2021, Third 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: "Prelude on 'Finlandia'" Judith Kuhn, Organist

GATHERING PRAYER:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: God is good.

People: All the time!

L: Like pilgrims before us, we yearn for freedom from troubles, forgiveness for mistakes, and fellowship with God and one another in genuine community.

P: Though we maneuver an imperfect world, we long for a world which champions, justice, mercy, hope and love.

L: The Bible tells us nothing can separate us from God's love,

P: and wonder of wonders, God loves through us.

L: With troubles, worries, regret and fear in the rearview mirror, we renew a journey of grace, recovery and possibility.

P: Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved one such as me!

All: Though we were once lost, we now are found; though blind, we now can see! Praise God!

HYMN: "Amazing Grace" UMH #378

Caroline Coffin, Soloist

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil, a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

(Words: John Newton, 1779; Music: 19th c., USA melody, 1900, Public Domain)

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

SCRIPTURE: John 2:13-22

Carol Christopoulos, Liturgist

Caroline Coffin, Liturgist

HYMN:

"Into My Heart"

TFWS #2160

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus;
come in today, come into stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

Out of my heart, out of my heart, shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus;
shine out today, shine out always; shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus.

(Harry D. Clarke, c1924, renewed 1952 Hope Pub. Co., TFWS, CCLI #2986523)

MESSAGE: "Pilgrim's Progress Revisited"

Text: Corinthians 1:18-25

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HOLY COMMUNION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about who we are, about the mistakes we make, and about how well or how poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God....

(c1999 R. Mk. Liebenow, W&S)

Renewing God, trusting in your infinite grace, we confess that we need your healing and forgiveness. For all that is broken in our minds and bodies, we ask your healing. For all that is amiss in our choices and relationships, we ask your forgiveness. For all that works against life and blessing in our hearts, and in the world, we open ourselves to your transforming grace. Heal us, forgive us, and make us new. Amen.

C2011 Steve Garnass-Holmes, W&S)

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH Page 17ff

Sharing the Celebration Bread and Cup

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: "Lenten Prayer" Judith Kuhn, Organist

(10 am only)

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:

Blessed God, you have called us to contribute to the needs of the saints and to extend hospitality to strangers. Hallow these gifts that they may be a blessing to many in your name. Amen.

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

CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE DEPART TO SERVE

HYMN: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" UMH #452

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire! As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide; bid darkness turn today, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream
shall o'er me roll; blest Savior, then in love,
fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

(Words: Ray Palmer, 1875; Music: Lowell Mason, 1831, UMH, Public Domain)

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: "Shubert March, Opus 27" 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

March 7, 2021