

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30am

Word for the Week: “Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God’s law.” Romans 13:10 (NLT)

Worship Info:

- **Worship continues** to be offered **in-person and online**; please make choices that you are comfortable with regarding the COVID-19 virus.
- Here’s this week’s **in-home worship** package for those who are unable to join us.
- Click on this link to join via **Zoom**, or copy and paste it in your browser:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86233774377?pwd=cmF5NkRBVmNqdEEveTBoRTRZbmppdz09>
- Enter the following as prompted: **Meeting ID:** 862 3377 4377 **Password:** 029381
- Or join **by phone** at (312) 626-6799 (Chicago), using the same info (charges may apply).
- **Youtube Live** is another option - worship without using Zoom!
- Go to the linked page, wait for a "Live Now" video - click on it and away you go! Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCleukD6raE5lms732qpdDUA>
- **Share these links** with family and friends! **Visit our Web page & Facebook page!**
- Please **contact Pastor Kevin** at (217) 692-2543 if you need help connecting.

Tech Note: Liturgist Spotlited and Unmuted/Pastor Muted

Announcements:

Liturgist, Slide 1

- Hello! Thank you for joining us in worship today! Here are a few things to be aware of:
- Charge Conference has been rescheduled to 2pm on October 24th.
- The final “The Psalms for Justice-Seekers and Peacemakers” class is this Wednesday evening, let the Pastor know if you’d like to participate.
- Please submit prayer requests on the bulletin tear offs – it is hard to hear them accurately otherwise. You may also chat, text, email, or call!
- Zoom and YouTube Live continue – please share the links with your family and friends - Share your church!

Prelude

Pianist

Tech Note: Spotlight and Unmute Pastor (Yeti), Mute Liturgist

Bell Ringer

Live or? Slide 2

Greeting

Pastor, Slide 3

Good Morning Blue Mound! Welcome to the 16th Sunday after Pentecost! Let’s begin with this morning’s:

*** Collect Prayer (please rise in body or spirit) Pastor, Slide 4**

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Tech Note: Spotlight Liturgist.

*** Opening Hymn “Lift Every Voice and Sing”, UMH 519 Slides 5-9**

L: Please remain standing and refer to the bulletin insert for this morning’s Call to Worship from Psalm 105.

Tech Note: Unmute Liturgist, Mute Pastor

*** Call to Worship: Psalm 105, Insert Liturgist, Slide 10**

Liturgist: ¹ O give thanks to the LORD, call on God’s name, make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

All: ² Sing to the Lord, sing praises! Tell of all God’s wonderful works.

Liturgist: ³ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

All: ⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength; seek the Lord’s presence continually!

Liturgist: ⁵ Remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles and judgments God has uttered,

All: ⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, God’s chosen ones.

Liturgist: ³⁷ Then God brought Israel out with silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.

All: ³⁸ Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it.

Liturgist: ³⁹ God spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night.

All: ⁴⁰ They asked, and the Lord brought quails, and gave them food from heaven in abundance.

Liturgist: ⁴¹ The Lord opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river.

All: ⁴² For God remembered God’s holy promise, and Abraham, the Lord’s servant.

Liturgist: ⁴³ So God brought the people out with joy, God’s chosen ones with singing.

All: ⁴⁴ God gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,

Liturgist: ⁴⁵ that they might keep the Lord’s statutes and observe the Lord’s laws.

All: Praise the LORD!

*** Gloria Patri: Pianist, Slide 11**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

L: Please be seated and turn to page 435 of your hymnal for our Hymn of Praise

Hymn of Praise “O God of Every Nation”, UMH 435 Slides 12-13

Tech Note: Spotlight “Congregation”, Mute Liturgist, Unmute Pastor

Pastoral Reading Exodus 16:2-15 Pastor/Liturgist, Slide 14

Liturgist: This morning we'll read Exodus 14:19-31, in which the Lord provides for the Israelites as they pass through the desert. We'll read from the NRSV.

Pastor: ² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

Liturgist: ³ The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Pastor: ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

Liturgist: ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸ And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Pastor: ⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Liturgist: ¹¹ The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹² “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

Pastor: ¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

Liturgist: ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was.

Pastor: Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Liturgist: The story of God’s people.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

L: *Please rise as able and join your voice in affirming our faith through the words of:*

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed Liturgist, Slide 15-16**

Liturgist: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Tech Note: Spotlight Pastor’s Video.

Passing of the Peace

Pastor, Slide 17

Pastor: *You may stand if you’d like, but please stay in your seats.* In this time of peace, in the words of Paul to the Galatians (Galatians 1:3-4a) ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to set us free.” Peace to you all.

All: Peace to you as well.

Moment of Insight

“A Worthy Life” Philippians 1:21-30

Pastor, Slide 18

How do you define, “a worthy life?” That’s a tough question – one where the answer is likely to change and evolve as you move through life. At one point I was almost solely focused on advancing in my military career. I was smart, and was promoted quickly in my first career field – all the way to E-5 in 3 ½ years! I don’t mean to brag, but how hard can it be to advance when you are competing against people

who believed that turning on the area lighting would burn off the fog we occasionally dealt with in the bomber alert area – even the sun has a hard time with that some days!

Promotions slowed down after I changed career fields – I was never really allowed to become a good radio technician, and I paid for it – even after I retired. And then I became a grant writer – worthy was defined by how many grants you wrote, and how many you landed, and I landed a good number. That I was working for a faith-based not for profit? Even better! I dedicated myself to that work – it was worthy work for a worthy cause; a worthy life. And then life changed again, as did the definition of worthy.

And then I read this morning's scripture: Paul's letter to the Philippians – specifically chapter 1, verses 21-30. I mean, here you have a man in prison, facing a rather bleak future, and he's not concerned about himself! His concern is for those he's writing to! And he writes with joy! Amazing. And when you read the words he's written, I mean, could you imagine saying this about the best job you've ever had?

This is from the New Living Translation: “²¹ For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. ²² But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. ²³ I'm torn between two desires...” Would you be torn between working for Cat, and dying for Cat? I was never interested in dying for a grant, I can assure you – better to live and retire!

But Paul is truly torn by this issue as you can read in verses 23 – 26. Paul is genuinely concerned about his young group of believers in Philippi. “...live together in a manner worthy of Christ's gospel” he urges them, “...stand firm, united in one spirit and mind...[struggling] together to remain faithful to the gospel.” Why? So they won't be afraid of those who would destroy them! That's a far cry from sitting (mostly) safe and sound in a sanctuary in Blue Mound (there is that virus thing floating around...).

In the NLT, Paul tells them, “²⁹ For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. ³⁰ We are in this struggle together...”. Now that sounds like a life worth living. The question is, are we up for the challenge? Amen.

Tech Note: Spotlight Liturgist's Video, Unmute Liturgist, Mute Pastor.

L: This morning I read from:

Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

Slide 19

L: In which Jesus tells the story of the generous landowner. I'll read from the NRSV:

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Tech Note: Spotlight Pastor's Video, Unmute Pastor, Mute Liturgist.

Pastor: Stop Screen Share, Switch to local mic.

Message:

“The Payoff”

Pastor, Slide 19

Please join me in prayer: Lord God, Pour out your Spirit on the words I am about to share, make them your own, find them pleasing, I pray, that they may nourish Your people, O LORD, our rock and our redeemer. Amen

Page 1 - The Issue Today/Intro Story:

Does (or did) anyone here get paid what they truly feel they are worth? Now, I'm not asking this because the SPRC has just set my salary for the coming year – I'm quite satisfied with what I receive from you and I appreciate your generosity.

I'm certainly doing better now than I was in my earliest working years when I helped out with a friend's paper route - \$2 per day when I filled in for him. My first paying babysitting job paid 35 cents per hour, and the family insisted on leaving a fan on for the kid – I hate the sound of fans. I had a couple of minimum wage jobs while in high school, and laid sod for a while. They didn't pay us for the time it took to get to and from the job site – that never seemed fair.

I made pretty good money working at a couple of plastics factories before I joined the Air Force. One of them paid piece rate, meaning the more pieces you made, the more they paid. I completed 14 hours' worth of work one day and was told to take the next day off – so much for rewarding my efficiency – they lost that contract not long after that. Of course, I never knew what my co-workers were making. Polite folks just don't talk about such things! Except that they probably should – there is too much at play behind the scenes when it comes to what people are being paid for doing similar work.

I first heard about the pay gap in the mid 70's, when my (then single-parent mother with three children) came home after work one day complaining that the guy working next to her was making more per hour than she was. After all, he had a family to support! (And she didn't?!) It's been nearly 50 years since then and we still hear a lot about the "Pay Gap." That is the gap between what men makes versus what women make in the workplace. It is truly astounding! According to equalpaytoday.org, come December 31st each year, the average pay for women should be equal the average pay a man receives. But that's not how it works. "The average woman must work far into the next year to earn what the average man earns the previous year."¹

How far? The average mom made \$0.70 on the average man's 2019 dollar, and had to work until June 4th of this year to catch up with the guys – assuming she didn't get laid off due to the virus. Asian women, depending on their ethnicity, did much better at \$0.90 and February 11th (my mom's birthday). Women in general came in at \$0.82 cents, reaching equality on March 31st – three months behind.

¹ <http://www.equalpaytoday.org/equalpaydays>

It gets worse. Black women just caught up a month ago, on August 13th – that's what \$0.62 on the dollar does for you. Native American women are still behind: \$0.57 cents catches them up on October 1st. \$0.54 cents finally brings Latina Women up to par on October 29th. And again, these figures were based on a normal economy, not a COVID economy, which will, of course, hurt everyone. This is a justice issue, folks. This is not what God wants for us.

Whoo! We'd better shake that off and catch our breath – that was just the first part of the message, we still haven't reached the point I wanted to make, and we are already making points!

Breath in. Breath out. A deep cleansing breath.

Page 2 - Exploring the Text/Context:

So here we find ourselves with another scripture that I skipped over three years ago. We hosted Heavenly Harmony the last time this particular scripture popped up in the lectionary rotation according to my records. Now, I'm sure y'all read this excerpt from the Gospel of Matthew during worship, but if memory serves me, Dorothy and I took the opportunity to visit a friend's church in Washington, IL that morning. I've since come to understand that we missed out that morning, although it was good to see our friends again. But at the time I wasn't that into women's choral groups due to a painful past experience. I quickly learned the following year though, and we certainly miss them this year!

This is also one of those scripture stories that we are all probably quite familiar with, so much so that I might have skipped it anyway, even if I had been here back on September 24th, 2017. I mean, we've heard it before, right? A guy goes out to the corner by the Walmart, the one with a few trees to provide shade, to hire some day laborers to begin the harvest in his vineyard. He picks the best looking, most eager of the bunch and puts them to work. Later in the morning he realizes he needs more help and goes back to the corner. He picks a few more, probably mostly Hispanics, some of them with questionable immigration documents – if they have any documentation at all – and he puts them to work.

Well, the harvest is going better than he thought by lunch time, and if he can get a few more workers they might just be able to finish up before sunset, so he goes out and hires more workers. (By now some of those hired by other farmers might be finished for they day, so they are looking for additional work.) He hires still more at mid-afternoon, really pouring the coal on, and goes out yet again late afternoon, with the sun starting to set, and his harvest goal in sight.

This time he hires all the stragglers – those who had arrived too late to be hired first thing in the morning, those who had appointments – possibly with immigration attorneys - earlier in the day; and probably a few that just didn't feel like working that day, but had to get out of the house for a while. We all know how that goes... “Why are you standing here idle all day?” he asks them. [And,]⁷ They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” Well, get to work he tells them, and off they go.

Now the next line in the story says, “When evening came...” but if you ask me 5pm, when he hired that last round of workers, was quitting time – you farmers work some long hours at harvest time! (and I hope you are well rested now for the days ahead!!)

Now, we don't know if they finished the harvest or not, I just made that part up anyway, but it is quitting time. Time to settle up with all those workers: It doesn't go quite the way they expected, does it? The last hired were the first to be paid, and those who worked all day received the same pay as everyone else – hey, they agreed to it when they were hired! But still, it hardly seems fair, does it? It's like when the minimum wage goes up and suddenly everyone gets the pay raise you worked years to get – not fair! But Jesus makes it clear that God's idea of fairness is just a little bit different than ours.

Page 3 - The Text Today/Exegesis:

Let's explore this just a bit. You see, there are those who use this story to their own advantage. Take the pay gap we talked about up front. For years male CEO's have said that women should be satisfied with what they get paid – never mind that it is less than what male co-workers receive.

How else do you explain why this problem still exists 50 years after it first became a national issue? But such use is a gross misuse of scripture. A “colonialist theology in action” as one of my professors might have called it. Certainly, liberationist, feminist and womanist theologies speak against such practices. This whole business of religion and theology can get so complicated, but here is a real-world justice issue that must be addressed!

And that is really what this scripture is about, isn't it? Justice? Of course, we knew this already, we were reminded of it last week, and really, we've been focusing on justice most of the year. But before we pursue that line of thought, let's hear the rest of today's story. The day is done, it's finally time to knock off and go home. It's time for the payoff, and so:

⁸ ... the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

We love that last line, we cling to it, because it means that no matter how tough our lives are, we will be rewarded in the end – there will be a payoff. And there is truth in that. God will take care of us. But how often do we hear the challenge in this reading? The challenge of accepting the idea that there will be folks who receive salvation that we don't think deserve it? When we think about heaven, we think of this wonderful place in the sky, full of good people, family and friends, the select who made it through the gates.

We don't envision running into the drug addict from down the street, the undocumented immigrants who have done the work no one else wanted to do, the single mother of two, although it may have been three, but for a decision she felt she had to make. All those folks who we feel are beneath us, the ones who arrived late in the game, the ones who didn't work hard enough or long enough to get ahead, the ones who didn't pull themselves up by their bootstraps like the rest of us? Most likely, they will be there. That's what I get out of this anyway...

I mean, have you ever been to a party and run into someone you felt had no business being there? That's what I'm talking about. Those folks we don't like, the folks we don't think deserve to be included? They'll be there. Whether we feel they deserve it or not.

Huh. How is that right? How is that just? What's up God? I've been faithful all my life, and I've seen how that man, or that woman, has behaved. He or she should not be here. You love me, Lord, how can you possibly love him or her?

Page 4 - The Good News/Summary/Takeaways:

Feel that. Don't just gloss over it and go home.

God is all about Justice, Righteousness, and Peace. Shalom, or as you will likely hear Dr McCann say next week, comprehensive wellness for all. When scripture talks about justice, it is best defined as a situation where everyone has what they need. Not everything they want, and not everything we feel they deserve.

What God wants from us, what God EXPECTS from us, is that we love God above all other, and that we love our neighbors as ourselves. God expects us to work towards the establishment of God's justice here on earth, and God's justice goes far beyond human law and order. You heard this last week - God's justice is established when everyone has what they need, whether **we** feel they deserve it or not, because "deserve" is a matter of judgement. God created all, God cares about all. Judge not, lest you be judged.

Yes, there are wicked people out there, wicked, not because God has judged them to be wicked, and certainly not because we have judged them to be so, but wicked because **they** have rejected God.

They have turned their backs. Yes, they'll receive their payoff as well. Just what that payoff will be, we don't know. Perhaps they'll end up in that proverbial pit of fire, but they may just show up at the party with us, and that's just not fair, is it?

Not fair, but it is true to the nature of God. We know that, because we've spent a lot of time looking at the nature of God this past summer – whether you could hear the message through Zoom or not. We've spent a lot of time looking at the nature of God since I've been here for that matter. As those among the faithful, you've spent a good portion of your life trying to understand God's nature, and you'll likely spend the rest of your lives doing the same – such is the nature of God.

At the heart of it all, God is creator, and God loves what God created. All of it. God has provided everything we need, and God expects us to use it fairly and wisely. God experiences the joy of our joy, and the hurt of our heartbreaks. God also mourns those who have rejected God; who have turned their backs on their Creator. But sorrow quickly turns to celebration when one of those comes back. Our job is not to bash those people over the head until they get the message. Our job is to show them God's love through us to the point that they want to experience it from the source for themselves, and if we can't do that, then maybe the best thing we can do is clam up and get out of God's way. What is it that Wesley said? "Do No Harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God?" Three simple rules, but so hard to follow. Life doesn't always seem fair, but God promises a payoff in the end, although God isn't so crass as to call it that. Love God above all other, love neighbor as self. Do No Harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God. Remember those words, live those words, you'll be fine. Regardless of how long you've been in the vineyard. Amen.

(I've got to say, I feel like I've been on quite a preaching roll lately, hitting one topic after another, after another! You're probably ready for a break from all this, and so am I! Fortunately, we'll get one next week!)

At the conclusion of the message:

Liturgist: As you listen to this morning's offertory reflect on the worshipful act of giving back to our Lord. Think about what you have received as blessings, and how you can bless others in return. Amen

Pastor: Start Screen Share, Switch to Yeti Mic.

Stewardship Moment: Please continue to support our mission by mailing your tithes and offerings to the church (PO Box 375, Blue Mound, IL 62513). Thank you.

Offertory

Slide 20

Doxology/Offertory Prayer:

Slide 21

God of grace and compassion, as we offer our tithes and offerings this morning, we remember the lessons in your providing the Israelites with manna in the wilderness. First lesson: you took care of their needs. Second lesson: you gave enough to meet the needs of the day and instructed them to look out for the weak and needy. Finally, you made clear that accumulating more than they needed would not end well. Help us to learn from these lessons in what you have given to us by your goodness. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen. (Exodus 16:2-15)

Joys and Concerns:

Slide 22

(Please forward joys and concerns to Pastor via Zoom Chat function, by phone at 692-2543, or at kdkriesel@gmail.com.)

Prayer Hymn: "Children of the Heavenly Father" v1&4, UMH 141

Slide 23-24

Pastoral Prayer

Slide 25

O God from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel made known through your Son.

God of miracles and mercy, all creation sings your praise. Like the vineyard owner your grace is extravagant and unexpected. Lead us to repentance and the acceptance of your grace, that we may be witness to your love, which embraces both those we call friend, and those we call stranger. Convict our leaders of your justice that they may act with justice, and protect those who protect and serve us and those who serve you around the world.

We praise your abiding guidance, O God, for you sent us Jesus, our Teacher and Messiah, to model for us the way of love for the whole universe. We offer these prayers of love on behalf of ourselves and our neighbors, on behalf of all your creation, as with joy we lift up: _____ and with concern: _____,

Joys: Larry Stalter (Sandy's Brother) is in remission!

Concerns: Sue Younker; Christen McCloud; the Bandy family in their time of loss; Dorothy Kriesel (Upcoming Surgery)

Continuing: Western State Fire Victims; Tropical Storm/Hurricane Victims, Jeffery Elvin (broken bones), Tami (doing better), Karen's brother (possible surgery), Dorothy Damery (Health), Rose Damery (New Knee), Iowa/Illinois storm victims; Nick Brown (Recovering Well), Ginny Stephenson (vision), Maurine Severns (Eyes), Justice in our nation; All affected by COVID 19; Carol Acree, Diane Elder, Doris Bonn, Tom Vaughn, Vic Oxby, John Holmgren, Don Younker, Bob Perona, Our Government, Local, State, and National Leaders; First Responders, Members of the Military, Our Bishop (Frank Beard), Our District Superintendent (Brad Watkins), The United Methodist Church.

Those Unable to Join us in Worship: Dorothy Damery (Primrose), Doris Bonn (At Home), Martha Sheppard (Imboden Creek Gardens), Gene Grandfield (At Home), Eleanor Moma (At Home).

Notes: Please submit your prayer requests on the tear offs, by chat, text, or email to ensure accuracy.

And now that we have proclaimed our joys and concerns let us take to the Lord those things, which we wish to keep between God and ourselves in a time of silent prayer.

(Silent Prayer)

Loving God, open our ears to hear your word and draw us closer to you, that the whole world may be one with you as you are one with us in Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER:

Slide 25

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 of Commitment "God Will Take Care of You", UMH 130 Slide 26-28**

Benediction - Closing Hymn - Postlude - Community Time Slide 29