

Lectionary Readings for today: Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Psalm 22:1-15, Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

Today's servants and the OLUMC staff welcomes YOU!

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Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10th, 2021



Centering Thought

What shall we pray about today? Scripturally, we know we are called to pray for one another. How can we do that without hearing what the needs might be, or where the hurts are?

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude "Allegro and Aria" George Frideric Handel
"Aria in F" John S. Dixon

Prayers of the People *please be sure to add your prayer requests to the prayer board, or text in your prayers (414-378-4012)*

CELEBRATING TOGETHER

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ALL Together

*Call to Worship *Roger D. Shaw, in Flames of Spirit: Resources for Worship, Ruth Duck, ed., Pilgrim Press, 1985, 61.*

One Voice: Listen, for the voice of God comes near!

ALL Voices: Listen, for God's voice is not obtrusive.

One: We come to worship the God who became one of us,

ALL: Who calls us by name,

Cont.

One: Who is Love Incarnate,

ALL: Who is!

One: Let us gather together in joy and hope –

ALL: Let us worship the God of Love!

*Opening Hymn “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” vs. 1, 2 UMH 474

*Unison Prayer by Bryan K. Fleet, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B, Discipleship Resources, 2007, 39.*

Holy God, we have had a hard week at home, school, work, and even in our communities, and we come this day looking for refuge. All week long, we have longed to be in Your presence. When we come forward, You seemed not to be there; when we reached backward, You could not be found. We looked to the left but could not see Your face; we even groped to the right but because of the darkness all around us, we could not see You. Now, in this time of worship together with You, O Lord, we seek the power of Your presence. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Intergenerational Lesson

Scripture Reading

Sermon “Complain Away” Job 23:1-9, 16-17

RESPONDING TOGETHER

Response Chorus “I Love You, Lord” ref. FWS 2068

**I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You,
O my soul rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what You hear,
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.**

SENT FORTH TOGETHER

Dedication and Blessing Prayer

God of the cosmos and God of every heartbeat: Your work touches every corner of creation; yet, when times are hard, we wonder if You’ve deserted us, and we become tight-fisted and fearful that sharing with others will leave us empty handed. As we offer our gifts today, give us the eyes to see and the hearts to know that You never desert us and never send us away in need. In the name of Your Son who came to remind us of Your closeness and to give his life so that ours might be eternal. Amen.

Invitation to Giving and Announcements

*Responsive Sending Forth/Final Blessing from *Wrestling Year B Connecting Sunday Readings with Lived Experience* by Wesley White, 2014. P. 50. Adapted.

One Voice: Today our complaint is bitter! What must we do to assure something better?

ALL Voices: Groaning is not enough.

One: Contend!

ALL: Contend where? With whom?

One: Arguing and debating is slippery territory. Even integrity is not enough here.

ALL: Sparks don’t illumine far in a deep darkness. We glimpse just enough for now.

One: From dark chaos we have come; to thick darkness we return. From ashes we have come; to ashes we shall return.

ALL: Let us treasure what little is known. Here we stand and from here, we leap!

*Closing Hymn “Take My Life, and Let It Be” vs. 1, 3 UMH 399

*Postlude “Prelude and Fugue in C Major” Johann Sebastian Bach