

Worship Celebration: June 17, 2018

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

9:15 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

4th Sunday after Pentecost (Year B)

Welcome to Epworth! We are blessed by your choosing to worship with us today. Jesus often taught using parables and the lessons we hear today focus on SEEDS. Tiny, small, insignificant things that GROW into beautiful, mighty things! Can you imagine yourself as a seed for God's Kingdom? That's what we're going to talk about this morning. We honor the best of our fathers today, as we pray for all kinds of families and most of all, the Family of God that we are blessed to be baptized into! All are welcome here, as we explore faith and embrace community.

EPWORTH

a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302) 227-7743 ☪ www.eumcrb.org



VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☪ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☪

Praise Gathering

SOUL ON FIRE

God, I'm running for Your heart, I'm running for Your heart till I am a soul on fire.
Lord, I'm longing for Your ways. I'm waiting for the day when I am a soul on fire, {*last time to TAG}
till I am a soul on fire. {Repeat}

Lord, restore the joy I had I have a-wandered bring me back.
In this darkness, lead me through until all I see is You, yeah! {Repeat Chorus}

Lord, let me burn for You again. Let me return to You again.
And Lord, let me burn for You again! And let me return to You again! {Repeat Chorus}

TAG: God, I'm running for Your heart, I'm running for Your heart till I am a soul on fire,
till I am a soul on fire, till I am a soul on fire.¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Gwen

*Passing the Peace

*Singing in Praise

GREATER

Bring your tired and bring your shame, bring your guilt and bring your pain.
Don't you know that's not your name? You will always be much more to me.

And every day I wrestle with the voices that keep telling me I'm not right,
but that's all right.

*'Cause I hear a voice, and He calls me redeemed when others say I'll never be enough.
And greater is the One living inside of me than he who is living in the world.
In the world, in the world. And greater is the One living inside of me than he who is living in the world.*

Bring your doubts and bring your fears, bring your hurt and bring your tears.
There'll be no condemnation here; you are holy, righteous and redeemed.
And every time I fall there'll be those who will call me a mistake.
Well, that's okay. {Refrain}

*(Bridge) There'll be days I lose the battle, Grace says that it doesn't matter
'cause the cross already won the war. I am learning to run freely, understanding just how He sees me,
and it makes me love Him more and more. (repeat) {Refrain} (bridge)*

(Tag) God is greater than he who is living in the world. ²

Children's Celebration (Blessing David Garrett)

Vicky

✪ WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD ✪

ANCIENT WORDS

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O, let the ancient words impart;
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

*Ancient words, ever true, changing me, and changing you;
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart.*

✪ We Engage the Word ✪

Old Testament Lesson

I Samuel 15:34-16:13

Laurie Kuebler

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.
Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul.
And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.
The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul?
I have rejected him from being king over Israel.
Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have
provided for myself a king among his sons."
Samuel said, "How can I go?
If Saul hears of it, he will kill me."
And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'
Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for
me the one whom I name to you."
Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem.

The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice."

And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD."

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel.

He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

Then Jesse made Shammah pass by.

And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these."

Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?"

And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."

And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

He sent and brought him in.

Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.

The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward.

Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

ANCIENT WORDS (CONT)

Holy words of our faith handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice; O heed the faithful words of Christ;
Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart; O let the ancient words impart. (*refrain 2x*)

Tag: O let the ancient words impart. ³

*Gospel Lesson

Mark 4:26-34

Epworth Youth Group

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?

It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Brothers and Sisters,

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

§Thanks be to God

Sermon

You Are the Seed

Rev. Vicky Starnes

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

Song of Response

EYE OF THE STORM

When the solid ground is falling out from underneath my feet,
Between the black skies and my red eyes, I can barely see.
And when I'm feeling like I've been let down by my friends and my family,
I can hear the rain reminding me:

*In the eye of the storm, You remain in control.
In the middle of the war, You guard my soul.
You alone are the anchor when my sails are torn.
Your love surrounds me in the eye of the storm.*

When my hopes and dreams are far from me and I'm running out of faith,
I see the future I picture slowly fade away.
And when the tears of pain and heartache are pouring down my face,
I can find my peace in Jesus' name. *(Refrain - Instrumental)*

When they let me go and I just don't know how I'm gonna make ends meet,
I did my best; now I'm scared to death that we might lose ev'rything.
And when a sickness takes my child away and there's nothing I can do,
My only hope is to trust You. I trust You, Lord.

*In the eye of the storm, you remain in control. In the middle of the war, you guard my soul.
You alone are the anchor when my sails are torn. Your love surrounds me... {Refrain} ⁴*

Joys & Concerns

(Mics Go Out Today)

Gwen

Litany for Peace *(by the Rev. Jane Sommers)*

- L: Loving God, we lift this day our gratitude for the loving men
who have brought us the precious heart of your Father Love.
We give thanks to you this day
- P: For those who have shown us kindness, for those who have shown us courage,
For those who have shown us generosity, for those who have shown us truth,
For those who have shown us compassion, for those who have shown us faith,
For those who have shown us love.
- L: Blessed be the name of all sons and brothers and fathers
who reveal a glimpse of your loving presence on earth.

O God, you inspire your people in the ways of kindness
that lift our world from its disgrace.

**P: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer for every son, brother, father, grandfather,
who has suffered and endured.**

L: We lift a stone from the streambed of Living Waters to the forehead of the men and boys
in our lives, touching each forehead with the sign of your healing

**P: for every broken heart hidden from view, for every secret shame buried in darkness,
for every untold story of regret and alienation.**

L: We touch with this stone the brow of every man who has suffered for those he loved;
We touch with this stone the forehead of our ancestral fathers
who sacrificed their very lives,

**P: inviting you to heal the wars and woes and wickedness within,
inviting your everlasting peace, that the world might know your peace.**

L: Hear our prayer, O God, for this broken world.

We pray for peace this Father's Day.

**P: For wisdom and equity in the hearts and minds of those who lead us.
For justice with mercy that seeks equitable access to the earth's resources.
For passion and power in our churches to influence public policy for good.
For a new day when justice will roll down like waters across this land.
For the revelation of Father Love that never leaves nor forsakes.**

L: And we lift your hope of healing for all sons, brothers, fathers, grandfathers who live in
mystery as your creation, who are entrusted with the life and struggles of manhood.

P: May they grow in Father Love to your glory.

L: Hear our prayer, O God, for this broken world. We pray for peace this Father's Day.

P: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

(sung responsively)

FWS 2248

Invitation to Offering ~ Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.

Vicky

*Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038
and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish
Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!*

ALL GOOD GIFTS

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above.
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.*

We thank you, then O Father, for all things bright and good.
The seed time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.

No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts.
But that which you desire – our humble thankful hearts. {Refrain}

*I really want to thank You, Lord.
All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above.
I want to thank You, Lord, I want to thank You.
Oh, thank You, Lord! Thank You, Lord!
Thank You, Lord! Thank You, Lord!
Thank You, Lord! ⁵*

☞ We Are Sent into the World ☛

*Benediction

Vicky

*Sending Song

WE BELIEVE

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation: we believe, we believe.
In this broken generation, when all is dark, you help us see.
There is only one salvation: we believe, we believe.

*We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the Crucifixion. We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again. We believe.*

So, let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing.
In our weakness and temptations, we believe, we believe! {Refrain}

Let the lost be found, and dead be raised; in the here and now let love invade.
Let the church live loud! Our God will save. We believe! We believe!
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the power of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe! We believe!

*We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the Crucifixion. We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back, He's coming back again!
He's coming back again! We believe! We believe! ⁶*

**Please stand as you are able.*

Bulletins for the month of June are sponsored in honor of their anniversary by Colleen & Charles Lopresto.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of her aunt, Mary Ellen Sladden, by Barbara Kurtz.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recording may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore, you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Acolyte Alexis Brown

Sound Ken Mahan, Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, John Hammett, Karen Kaufman

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator - Worship Pathway:

9:30: Wally & Joan Sprague, Kevin Reagan, Loretta Mahan, Lori Watson, Holly Ostendorf

Worship Resources

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¹ *Soul on Fire*: Mac Powell, Tai Anderson, Mark Lee, David Carr, Brenton Brown & Matt Maher ©2014 Songs From the Quarry

² *Greater*: MercyMe ©2000-2015 AZLyrics.com.

³ *Ancient Words*: Lynn Deshazo ©2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

⁴ *Eye of the Storm*: Bryan Fowler & Ryan Stevenson ©2015 Stevens Fowler JV Sesac Designee

⁵ *All Good Gifts*: Stephen Schwartz ©1971 Valando Music

⁶ *We Believe*: Matt Hooper, Richie Fike and Travis Ryan ©2013 Integrity Music.

Ministers: The Church Family... Lay Leader: Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... Associate Pastor: Rev. Glenn Catley

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... Accompanist: Linda Hess ... Coordinator of Caring Ministries: Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... Office Manager: Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... Administrative Assistant: Diana Young ... Sound Tech: Josh Megee

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... Nursery: Cathy Crawford ... Interim Cemetery Superintendent: Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson ... Maintenance: Mike Harrigan



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Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



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worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary
