

Worship Celebration: January 19, 2020

10:00 a.m. (COMBINED WORSHIP)

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany (Year A)

CONNECTING TO GOD

We continue exploring our mission as Epworth UMC, looking this week at Connecting to God. We have discovered that God invites ALL to the table of grace, and we have heard a new the invitation to find our place in the body of Christ, which is the church. Today, we delve deeper into what it means to cultivate a place where people can experience the presence of God in their lives and feel the movement and calling of the Spirit. Our passage from Isaiah 55 once again invites ALL to come and join the feast, listening to what the Lord has to tell us and quenching our thirst for the only love which satisfies. We also learn that our life with God (which we call “salvation”) consists of an on-going process, much like seeds which sprout and put down roots and grow. Ultimately, this relationship with our God of love brings JOY!

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*

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☞ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☞

Gathering Music

Doug Yetter, organ

Welcome & Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Rev. Todd

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Call to Worship

L: All who are thirsty -

P: **come to the water!**

L: You who have no money – come, buy and eat!

P: **Buy wine and milk, without money, without price.**

L: Why spend your money on things that will not nourish you?

P: **Why work for things that will leave you unsatisfied?**

L: Listen to God, and you will eat well.

P: **Come to God, and you will be richly fed!**

L: God sends the rain and the snow to water the earth -

P: **so the seed will sprout and give us bread.**

L: Let us worship in joy!

P: **And leave in peace.**

*Hymn of Faith

God Is Here (vs. 1, 2, & 4)

UMH 660

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

2. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.

Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Children's Celebration

Mickie McManamon & Gwen Osborne

☞ WE ENGAGE 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. (refrain 2x)*

Tag: O let the ancient words impart.

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 55

Gwen Osborne

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Brothers and Sisters,

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

☞Thanks be to God

Anthem

We Plow the Fields... Johann A. P. Shultz

Chancel Choir

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

***Hymn of Response** *Creating God, Your Fingers Trace* UMH 109

1. Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.
2. Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care.
3. Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love.
4. Indwelling God, your gospel claims one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.

Sharing Joys & Concerns and Morning Prayer Rev. Todd

The Lord's Prayer *Sung Responsively* FWS 2287

Invitation to Offering *Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.* Rev. Vicki

*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!*

Offertory: *Blessing and Honor ...* Dana Mengel Chancel Choir

***Acclamation** *We Plow the Fields*

We thank you then, O Father, for all things bright and good:
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,
and that which you desire, our humble, thankful hearts
*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.*

☞ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ☞

***Benediction** Rev. Vicki

***Sending Forth** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* UMH 140

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;*

*all I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. *{Refrain}*
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *{Refrain}*

Postlude

Doug Yetter, organ

* = *Please stand as you are able;* S = *congregational response*

Bulletins for the month of January are sponsored by Epworth

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- ❖ In memory of Rose Barcellona by Robbin Murray and De Raynes;
- ❖ In memory of Mark Palmer by Ken Johnson.

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.

Assisting with today's service as

- Greeters:** Andy Brangenberg
Acolyte: Bianca Camiolo
Sound: Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman, Sofia Tamburello, Tommy Vyas
Ushers: Head Usher: Russ Mullen
Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:
Harvey Waltersdorf, Chet Sprague, Jim Larsen

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

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Todd Shultz

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

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

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Interim Administrative Assistant:* Barbara Kurtz ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee ... *ASL Interpreter:* Sandy Davis

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

Custodian: Wanda Hudson...*Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

19285 Holland Glade Road Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302.227.7743 www.EUMCRB.org



Large-Print Bulletins &
Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

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