

Worship Celebration: February 23, 2020

9:15 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

7th Sunday after Epiphany (Year A)

Welcome to Epworth, neighbor! We continue our series “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” based on Mr. Rogers’ television series and the recent movie. We have looked at acknowledging our feelings without letting them drive our actions; looking and listening in order to understand others; and accepting people and circumstances just the way they are. This week, we explore the importance of forgiveness, for ourselves and for others. In the movie, “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” Mr. Rogers helps Lloyd work through

the process of forgiving his father. We also read a story of forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Father, whose extravagant forgiveness causes issues with the older brother. Join us as we explore the forgiveness of our faith together and embrace the neighborhood of our 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

☪ ENTER GOD’S HOUSE WITH PRAISE ☪

Praise Gathering

THE GOSPEL

A restless generation, we’re turning over ev’ry stone,
hoping to find salvation in a world that’s left us cold.
Can we get back to the altar, back to the arms of our first love?
There’s only one way to the Father, and He’s calling out to us.

*To the captive it looks like freedom, to the orphan it feels like home.
To the skeptic it might sound crazy to believe in a God who loves.
In a world where our hearts are breaking, and we’re lost in the mess we’ve made,
like a blinding light in the dead of night, it’s the Gospel, the Gospel that makes a way.
It’s the Gospel that makes a way.*

It’s the cure for our condition, it’s the Good News for us all.
It’s greater than religion, it’s the power of the cross.
So, can we get back to the altar, back to the arms of our first love?
There’s only one way to the Father, and He’s calling out to us. {Chorus}

It's the Gospel that makes a way.

In my own life it means forgiveness when I know I deserve the fall.
It called me out of my darkness and carried me to the cross.
In a moment my eyes were opened, in that moment my heart was changed.
Like a blinding light in the dead of night, it's the Gospel. {Chorus}

TAG: *It's the Gospel that makes a way. Oh, oh, it's the Gospel that makes a way.
It's the Gospel, the Gospel that makes a way.*¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Todd

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Singing in Praise

AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

Our Father, Who is in Heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Come and let Your glory come, and let Your glory fall.
Our Father, Who is in Heaven; the rocks cry out Your fame.
Come and let Your glory come, and let Your glory fall.

I will sing, sing a new song, I will sing, sing a new song;
I will sing, sing a new song to the Lord.

*Let Your Kingdom come, let Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim the mercy of Your name, on earth, as it is in Heaven.*

God give us, new ev'ry morning, mercy as daily bread.
In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus we pray.
And lead us not to temptation, but deliver us with Your hand
In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus we pray. Father we pray!

I will sing, sing a new song, I will sing, sing a new song;
I will sing, sing a new song to the Lord.

*Let Your Kingdom come, let Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim the mercy of Your name, on earth, as it is in Heaven.*

For the Kingdom is Yours, and the power is Yours, and the glory forever, amen.
For the Kingdom is Yours, and the power is Yours, and the glory forever, amen.
Yeah, the Kingdom is Yours, and the power is Yours, and the glory forever, amen.
For the Kingdom is Yours, and the power is Yours, and the glory forever, amen.

*Let Your Kingdom come, let Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim the mercy of Your name, on earth, as it is in Heaven.
As it is in Heaven.*²

☞ BE SHAPED BY GOD'S WORD ☞

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS ... arr. Ron Mallory

Memorial Bell Choir

☞ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ☞

*Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:11-32

Jo Pokorny

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons.

The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.'

So he divided his property between them.

A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!

I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."

So he set off and went to his father.

But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!

And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.

He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'

Then he became angry and refused to go in.

His father came out and began to plead with him.

But he answered his father, 'Listen!

For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with

my friends.
But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!
Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'

Brothers and Sisters,
This is the Word of God for the People of God.

\$Thanks be to God

WHO YOU SAY I AM

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in. Oh, His love for me! Oh, His love for me!

Who the Son sets free, oh, is free indeed. I'm a child of God. Yes, I am.

Free at last, He has ransomed me. His grace runs deep.
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me. Yes, He died for me!

*Who the Son sets free, oh, is free indeed. I'm a child of God. Yes, I am.
In my Father's house, there's a place for me. I'm a child of God. Yes, I am. ³*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

☞ RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞

Song of Response

A JOYOUS RING... Douglas E. Wagner

Memorial Bell Choir

Joys & Concerns

Todd

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(sung responsively)

FWS 2278

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

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:

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho
Spiritual; arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

Memorial Bell Choir

☞ SHARE GOD'S GRACE WITH THE WORLD ☞

*Benediction

Vicki

*Sending Song

ALL MY HOPE

I've been held by the Savior. I've felt fire from above.
I've been down to the river. I ain't the same; a prodigal returned.

*All my hope is in Jesus. Thank God that yesterday's gone.
All my sins are forgiven. and I've been washed by the blood.*

I'm no stranger to the prison. I've worn shackles and chains.
But I've been freed and forgiven. yes, I have. I'm not going back; I'll never be the same.
That's why I sing: {Chorus}

There's a kind of thing that just breaks a man, break him down to his knees.
God, I've been broken more than a time or two, yes, Lord.
Then He picked me up and showed me what it means to be a man.
Come on and sing: {Chorus 2X} ⁴

**Please stand as you are able.*

Bulletins for the month of February are sponsored in memory of Bobbie Trlica by Tom.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- In memory of Elizabeth Carpenter by Karen West;
- In honor of the Music Ministry by Miriam Barton.

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 Bianca Camiolo

Sound Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman, Sofia Tamburello, Tommy Vyas

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:

9:30: Jean Waters, Jerry Crump, Maubra Randolph, Anita Broccolino, Jayne Tamburello, Suzanne Krupa

Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

¹ *The Gospel*: Bryan Fowler, Toby McKeehan & Ryan Stevenson ©2017 Musical Moodswing

² *As It Is in Heaven*: Matt Maher & Ed Cash ©2007 worshiptogether.com Song (ASCAP)

³ *Who You Say I Am*: Reuben Morgan & Ben Fielding ©2018 Hillsong Music Publishing

⁴ *All My Hope*: David Crowder & Ed Cash ©2016 INOT Music

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



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



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United Methodists for
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www.RMNetwork.org

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