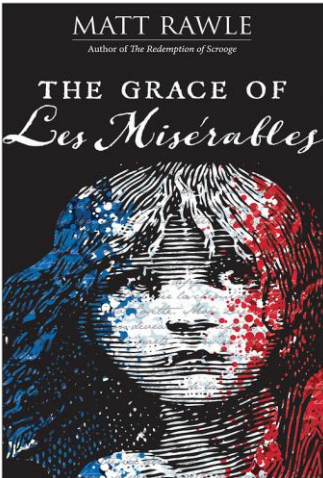


Worship Celebration: April 19, 2020

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year A)



Now that we have celebrated the resurrection of Jesus, we begin to look at the impact of grace in our lives. Over the next several weeks, we will use the lens of the book/musical “Les Misérables” to explore the various ways grace works in our world and the variety of responses to grace. This week, we will get an overview of the Biblical themes of justice in the musical and examine the role gardens play in the musical and in the Bible. Just as gardens grow as a result of work and grace, our life with God grows in much the same way. Gardens require a great deal of work in the beginning, but soon the work lessens and the joy of experiencing the plants blossom and grow makes all the initial effort worth it. Come, let’s discover what God has in mind to grow in us!

EPWORTH  
a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971  
(302) 227-7743 ✠ [www.eumcrb.org](http://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

OLD CHURCH CHOIR

Bill Martin, soloist

There’s a revival and it’s spreading like a wildfire in my heart.  
A Sunday morning, hallelujah, and it’s lasting all week long.  
Can you hear it? Can you feel it? It’s the rhythm of a gospel song.  
Oh, once you choose it, you can’t lose it.  
There ain’t nothing, there ain’t nothing gonna steal my joy.

*I’ve got an old church choir singing in my soul.  
I’ve got a sweet salvation and it’s beautiful.  
I’ve got a heart overflowing ‘cause I’ve been restored.  
No, there ain’t nothing gonna steal my joy.  
No, there ain’t nothing gonna steal my joy.*

When the valleys that I wander turn to mountains that I can’t climb,  
Oh, You are with me, You never leave me.  
Oh, ‘cause there ain’t nothing, there ain’t nothing gonna steal my joy. {Refrain}

Clap your hands and stomp your feet 'til you find that gospel beat  
'Cause He's all you'll ever need, all you'll ever need. (2X)

*I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.  
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.*

*I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.  
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.  
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored.  
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.  
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.  
Oh, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.<sup>1</sup>*

## Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Gwen

### \*Singing in Praise

*THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S*

1. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.  
Creation reminds us, O God, of your love.  
By grace we are learning, as year leads to year,  
we're called to be stewards, your caretakers here.
3. Too often, O God, we abuse your good earth.  
We fail to remember its beauty and worth.  
We take from creation much more than we need,  
we threaten your world through indifference and greed.
4. May we be good stewards of all that you give,  
protecting creation wherever we live.  
May we be a church that renews and restores  
and lovingly cares for this earth that is yours.

## ✠ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ✠

### Old Testament Lesson

*Isaiah 58:6-12*

Gwen Osborne

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Brothers and Sisters,

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

☩ Thanks be to God

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

☩ RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☩

Hymn of Response

*In the Garden*

UMH 314

1. I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses,  
and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.  
*And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*
2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. {Refrain}
3. I'd stay in the garden with him though the night around me is falling,  
but he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling. {Refrain}

Explanation of 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:

*Touch the Earth Lightly*

W&S 3129

1. Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently, nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender, trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
3. Let there be greening, birth from the burning, water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden, hope in God's children, regeneration that peace will complete.
4. God of all living, God of all loving, God of the seedling, the snow, and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us, using us gently and making us one.

Morning Prayer

?

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

☩ SHARE GOD'S GRACE WITH THE WORLD ☩

\*Benediction

Vicki

**\*Sending Song**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

UMH 577

1. God of grace and God of Glory, on your people pour your power;  
crown your ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.
2. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.
3. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

**Postlude**

Doug Yetter, organ

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*







Bulletins for the month of April are sponsored in memory of her husband, Ed Henriksen, by Barbara.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and

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*

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

*Ushers* Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator - Worship Pathway:

## Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

<sup>1</sup>Old Church Choir: Colby Wedgeworth, Ethan Hulse & Zach Williams ©2016 Anthems of Hope / Be Essential Songs

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

*Senior Pastor:* Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

*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 ... *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](http://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](http://www.RMNetwork.org)

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