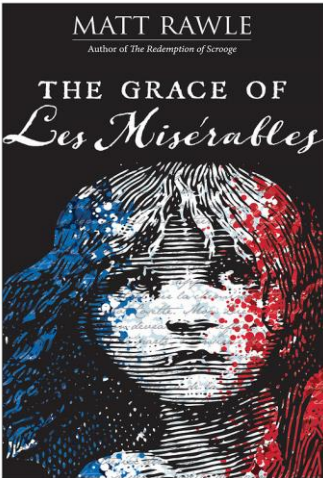


Worship Celebration: April 26, 2020

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Last week, we began exploring the theme of grace through the lens of the musical/book *Les Misérables*, and the book by Matt Rawle. This week, we examine the response of the main character, Jean Valjean, to the gift of grace by the bishop, M. Bienvenu. The bishop offers Valjean the gift of prevenient grace (that grace which comes before we know what it is or how to respond), and we spend the rest of the musical/book watching Valjean grow into his response. Our passage from Luke describes his life journey as learning to live as a child of “the Most High,” by loving our enemies and doing good while expecting nothing in return. This week, we ask ourselves, “How do I respond to grace—a gift with no expectation? When have I received such undeserved forgiveness? And, in what ways do I give such a grace—loving my enemies, lending with no expectation, and being compassionate?”

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 ✠

LOVE THE LORD

Mike Ryan, soloist

Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength; (*repeat*)

With all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind; with all your strength; (*repeat*)

I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
with all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength; (*repeat*)

With all my heart, with all my soul,  
with all my mind, with all my strength;  
I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
with all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength;

I will love You, (echo) I will praise You; (echo)  
I will serve You, (echo) I will trust You. (echo)

With all my heart, with all my soul,  
with all my mind, with all my strength; (*repeat*)

I will love You, Lord, with all my heart, with all my soul,  
with all my mind and with all my strength; (*repeat 2x*) <sup>1</sup>

## Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Gwen Osborne

## Opening Hymn

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

UMH 549

TUNE: FOREST GREEN (CMD)

1. Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.  
With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.
2. Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;  
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.  
Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;  
be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.
3. Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;  
as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.  
Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;  
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

## Children's Celebration

Terre Walton

### ✠ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ✠

## Gospel Lesson

*Luke 6:32-36*

Pam McMillan

If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?  
For even sinners love those who love them.  
If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you?  
For even sinners do the same.  
If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you?  
Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.  
But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.  
Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the  
ungrateful and the wicked.  
Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

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

§Thanks be to God

☞ RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞

## Song of Response

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

FWS 2171

Mike Ryan, soloist

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

**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:**

*God, We've Known Such Grief and Anger*

TUNE: NETTLETON

1. God, we've known such grief and anger as we've heard your people cry.  
We have asked you, "How much longer?" We have sadly wondered, "Why?"  
In this world with so much suffering, may we hear Your Word anew:  
"I will never leave you orphaned; I will not abandon you."
2. By Your grace comes resurrection; by Your love, You cast out fear.  
You give strength and sure direction as we seek to serve you here.  
You give comfort to the grieving, and You bless the ones who mourn,  
may we trust in You, believing out of chaos, hope is born.
3. Hope is ours for, God, You love us! You have claimed us by Your grace.  
And through Jesus, You have called us to bring hope to every place.  
In each medic worker's caring, in each faithful volunteer,  
in each person's love and sharing, God, we glimpse Your kingdom here.

## Morning Prayer

Gwen Osborne

### The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

### Prayer Response

*O Christ, Your Loving, Saving Touch*

ST. ANNE CM

1. O Christ, your loving, saving touch heals children, women, men.  
We pray for ones we love so much; Lord, make them whole again.
2. Now work through those your Spirit sends to heal, restore and care.  
May doctors, nurses, neighbors, friends be answers to our prayer.
3. And when the journey seems too rough and you seem far away,  
remind us, Lord: You are enough to bring us through each day.

### ✠ SHARE GOD'S GRACE WITH THE WORLD ✠

### \*Benediction

*Go Walk With God*

Vicki

Go walk with God in all you do, and may God's love bring joy to you.  
May gifts of peace fill all your days, and may God's truth guide you always.

### \*Sending Song

*STAND IN YOUR LOVE*

When darkness tries to roll over my bones, when sorrow comes to steal the joy I own.  
When brokenness and pain is all I know, I won't be shaken, no, I won't be shaken.

*My fear doesn't stand a chance when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance, when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance, when I stand in Your love.*

Shame no longer has a place to hide. I am not a captive to the lies.  
I'm not afraid to leave my past behind. I won't be shaken, no, I won't be shaken! {Refrain}

There's power that can break off every chain.  
There's power that can empty out a grave.  
There's resurrection power that can save, there's power in Your name,  
power in Your name. {Repeat section}

*My fear doesn't stand a chance, when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance, when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance, when I stand in Your love!  
Oh when, when I'm standing in Your love.*

*Oh, my fear doesn't stand a chance when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance when I stand in Your love.  
My fear doesn't stand a chance .when I stand in Your love!*

*Oh, oh, I'm standing in Your love. Oh, oh, standing on the rock.  
Oh, I'm standing, standing in Your love. <sup>2</sup>*

## 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> *Love The Lord*: Lincoln Brewster ©2005 Integrity's Praise! Music/BMI

<sup>2</sup> *Stand In Your Love*: Ethan Hulse, Josh Baldwin, Mark Harris, Rita Springer ©2018 EGH Music Publishing

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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 ... *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

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**EPWORTH**  
**REHOBOTH BEACH**  
**a United Methodist Church**  
*Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors*

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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



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

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