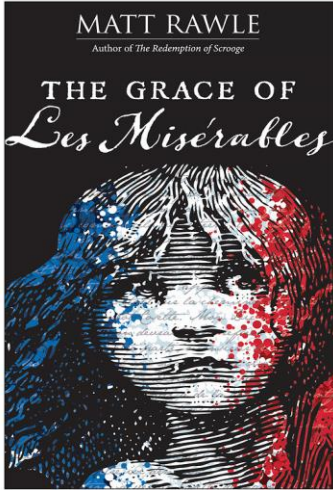


Worship Celebration: May 10, 2020

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

5th Sunday of Easter (Year A)



This week, we continue to explore grace through the lens of Victor Hugo's story, *Les Misérables*, and the musical adaptation. We have examined how accepting or refusing grace impacts our lives and how we relate to other people. Now, we come to the love relationship between Jean Valjean's adopted daughter, Cosette, and Marius, which develops toward the end of the story. These two young people fall in love in a garden and write letters professing their love. Jean Valjean initially feels threatened by their love, fearing he will lose Cosette, the only one who has ever loved him. What we discover, however, is that love expands when we share it. Our passage from Song of Songs echoes this learning, as two people express their growing love for one another. Suddenly the world seems so much sweeter in every way. Our love affair with God unfolds in much the same way. As humans created in the image of God, we live to give and receive love, and when we experience God's "overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love," our lives change forever.

EPWORTH

a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302) 227-7743 ☩ www.cumcrb.org



VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

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

✠ ENTER GOD'S HOUSE WITH PRAISE ✠

Gathering in Praise

COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP

Doug Yetter, vocals

Come, now is the time to worship; come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship; come, just as you are before your God, come. (repeat)

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God;

One day ev'ry knee will bow. Still the greatest treasure remains

For those who gladly choose You now. *(instr.)*

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives, Willingly our knees will bow,

With all our heart, soul, mind and strength,

We gladly choose You now. *{Refrain}*

(tag) Come, come (just as you are) come!

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Glen Pruitt

*Singing in Praise

MY LIGHTHOUSE

In my wrestling, and in my doubts,
in my failures, You won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea.
Whoa, oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence, You won't let go.
In the questions, Your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea.
Whoa, oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea.

*My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse
shining in the darkness, I will follow You!
Oh My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,
I will trust the promise: You will carry me safe to shore,
safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.*

I won't fear what tomorrow brings.
With each morning, I'll rise and sing.
My God's love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea.
Whoa, oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea. {Chorus}

Bridge: Fire before us, You're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms. (Repeat 4X – Chorus) ²

Children's Celebration

Glen Pruitt

Sequence Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

UMH 121
TUNE: NETTLETON

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.
2. For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple, we would rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of the Lord.

☞ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ☞

Old Testament Lesson

Song of Solomon 2:1-5, 8-13

Lynn Mays

I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys.

As a lily among brambles, so is my love among maidens.

As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men.

With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

He brought me to the banqueting house, and his intention toward me was love.

Sustain me with raisins, refresh me with apples; for I am faint with love.

The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Brothers and Sisters,

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

☩Thanks be to God

Anthem

The Gift of Love

Glen Pruitt

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love, guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

☞ RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞

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:

I Need to Be Still

Glen Pruitt, vocals

Lyric by Naomi Martin; Music by Archie P. Jordan

Joys & Concerns

Glen Pruitt

Segue to: I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE

Doug - vocal

I need you; you need me. We're all a part of God's body.
Stand with me; agree with me, we're all a part of God's body.
It is His will that ev'ry need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.

Morning Prayer

Glen Pruitt

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

§ Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

I Need You to Survive

It is His will that ev'ry need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.³

☞ SHARE GOD'S GRACE WITH THE WORLD ☛

*Benediction (*sung*)

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

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 has been Thou forever will be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Your hand has provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
2. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine 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 rise in body or in spirit.*

Bulletins for the month of May are sponsored in loving memory of Robert Greenawalt's death 8 years ago, May 5, by his Wife and Family.

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:

9:30:

Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

¹ *Come, Now is the Time to Worship:* Brian Doerksen ©1998 Vineyard Songs.

² *My Lighthouse:* Rend Collective ©2013 Thankyou Music

³ *I Need You to Survive:* David Frazier ©2003 God's Music Inc. / L'il Dave's Music Inc.

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



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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American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



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United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
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www.RMNetwork.org

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