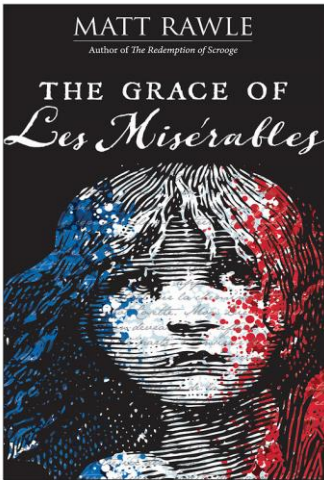


Worship Celebration: May 17, 2020

10:00 a.m. (BLENDED)

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

6th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

This week, we use poverty as the lens to examine grace, as we continue our exploration of the grace of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*. As the title indicates, the poor play a vital role in the book. Jean Valjean, who served nineteen years in prison for stealing a loaf of bread for his sister's family, demonstrates the criminalization of poverty. Fantine, a young woman whose love affair left her a single mother, represents the unique struggles of single mothers to provide for their children, and the seemingly impossible choices they must make between their own well-being and their children. Other characters also give us a glimpse into attitudes about the poor and responses to poverty. Our scripture today invites us to be generous and give willingly, since there will "never cease to be some in need on the earth." Jesus also told his disciples that we will always have the poor with us. So, how can poverty be a grace? Join us as we wrestle with that question.

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 ✠

Countdown Concerto

Doug Yetter

Gathering in Praise

LOVE CAME DOWN

If my heart is overwhelmed and I cannot hear Your voice,
I hold on to what is true, though I cannot see.
If the storms of life, they come, and the road ahead gets steep,
I will lift these hands in faith; I will believe.

I remind myself of all that You've done, And the life I have because of Your Son.

Love came down and rescued me, love came down and set me free.

I am Yours, I am forever Yours.

Mountain high or valley low, I sing out and remind my soul:

I am Yours, I am forever Yours.

When my heart is filled with hope, and ev'ry promise comes my way,
When I feel Your hands of grace rest upon me,
Staying desp'rate for you, God, staying humbled at Your feet,
I will lift these hands and praise, I will believe.

I remind myself of all that You've done,
And the life I have because of Your Son. {Refrain}

I am Yours, I am Yours.
All my days, Jesus, I am Yours.
I am Yours, I am Yours.
All my days, I am Yours. {Refrain twice}

TAG: I am Yours, I am Yours,
I am Yours, Jesus, I am Yours. ¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Gwen Osborne

*Singing in Praise

The Voice of God Is Calling

UMH 436
TUNE: LANCASHIRE

1. The voice of God is calling its summons in our day;
Isaiah heard in Zion, and we now hear God say:
"Whom shall I send to succor my people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen the bonds of shame and greed?"
2. "I hear my people crying in slum and mine and mill;
no field or mart is silent, no city street is still.
I see my people falling in darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter the fetters which they bear?"
3. We heed, O Lord, your summons, and answer: Here are we!
Send us upon your errand, let us your servants be.
Take us, and make us holy; teach us your will and way.
Speak, and behold! we answer; command, and we obey!

Children's Celebration

Mike Tyler

☞ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ☞

The Power of Your Name

Surely children weren't made for the streets, and fathers were not made to leave.
Surely this isn't how it should be. Let Your Kingdom come.

Surely nations were not made for war, or the broken meant to be ignored.
Surely this just can't be what You saw. Let Your Kingdom come here in my heart.

*And I will live to carry Your compassion,
to love a world that's broken, to be Your hands and feet.
And I will give with the life that I've been given,
and go beyond religion to see the world be changed
by the power of Your name, the power of Your name.*

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

Jim Long

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor.

You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be.

Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, "The seventh year, the year of remission, is near," and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the LORD against you, and you would incur guilt.

Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.

Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land."

Brothers and Sisters,

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

§Thanks be to God

THE POWER OF YOUR NAME (CONT)

Surely life wasn't made to regret, and the lost were not made to forget.

Surely faith without action is dead.

Let Your Kingdom come. Lord break this heart. {Refrain}

Jesus, Your name is a shelter for the hurting,
and Your name is a refuge for the weak.

Only Your name can redeem the undeserving.

Jesus, Your name holds ev'rything I need. {Refrain twice – 1st time without last line} ²

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

☞ RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☛

Sermon Response

Another Son is Killed

1. Another son is killed, another daughter dies,
and loving, waiting homes are filled with loved one's cries.

As rivers never sleep, so wars flow on and on.

Hang up your harps, sit down and weep for those now gone!

2. We grieve for children lost, for hearts too sad to pray;
we mourn, O Lord, the growing cost of hatred's way.
And sure as threats increase and anger turns to war,
we pray that we may find a peace worth struggling for.

3. We know your way, O Lord, for all your people here:
A plowshare from a fighting sword, a transformed spear!
Now comfort those who grieve, be in each saddened home,
and by your grace may we believe - and seek Shalom.

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:

EVEN IF

Mike

They say sometimes you win some, sometimes you lose some,
and right now, right now I'm losing bad.
I've stood on this stage night after night, reminding the broken it'll be alright.
But right now, oh, right now, I just can't.

It's easy to sing when there's nothing to bring me down.
But what will I say when I'm held to the flame like I am right now?

CH 1: *I know You're able and I know You can save through the fire with Your mighty hand.
But even if You don't, my hope is You alone.*

They say it only takes a little faith to move a mountain.
Well, good thing a little faith is all I have right now.
But God, when You choose to leave mountains unmovable,
oh, give me the strength to be able to sing it is well with my soul.

CH 2: *I know You're able and I know You can save through the fire with Your mighty hand.
But even if You don't, my hope is You alone.
I know the sorrow and I know the hurt would all go away if You just say the word.
But even if You don't, my hope is You alone.*

You've been faithful, You've been good all of my days.
Jesus, I will cling to You, come what may.
'Cause I know You're able, I know You care. {Chorus 2}

TAG: I hope in You alone, ooh.

It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul. ³

Joys and Concerns

Mike

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

Mike

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

Doug

It is His will that ev'ry need be supplied. You are important to me. I need you to survive. ⁴

☞ 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

ALL THE PEOPLE SAID AMEN

You are not alone if you are lonely.
When you feel afraid, you're not the only.
We are all the same, in need of mercy, to be forgiven and be free.
It's all you get to lean on, but thank God, it's all you need.

And all the people said Amen. Whoa. And all the people said Amen.

Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends. And all the people said Amen.

If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter.
Weak or strong, you know love is what we're after.
We're all broken, but we're all in this together.
God knows we stumble and fall,
And He so loved the world, He sent his son to save us all. {Refrain}

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart.
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart.
Blessed are the people hungry for another start,
For theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God. {Refrain 2x}

TAG: Yeah! And all the people said Amen. ⁵

Postlude

Doug Yetter, organ

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Bulletins for the month of March are sponsored by Russ Mullen.

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 recordings 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 *Love Came Down*: Ian McIntosh, Jeremy Edwardson, Brian Johnson, & Jeremy Riddle ©2009 Mercy / Vineyard Music

² *The Power of Your Name*: Lincoln Brewster, Mia Fieldes ©2008 Integrity's Praise! Music, SHOUT! Music Publishing

³ *Even If*: Tim Timmons, Crystal Lewis, David Garcia, Ben Glover & MercyMe ©2017 Tunes of MercyMe

⁴ *I Need You to Survive*: David Frazier ©2003 God's Music Inc. / L'il Dave's Music Inc.

⁵ *All the People Said Amen*: ©2013 Thankyou Music

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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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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greater inclusiveness
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www.RMNetwork.org

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