



Jan. 16th, 2022
Human Relations Sunday

Twin Towers United Methodist Church
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WORSHIP GUIDE

Before you begin your time of worship, find a comfortable place to be and gather whatever you might need: your Bible, something to write on and with, your computer/connected device (if you intend to listen to music online), etc. Feel free to adapt this worship guide in any way that makes best sense to you and those you might be gathered with. (Consider inviting someone – a friend, a family member – to worship with you.) Commit to spending the next hour with God.

PRELUDE - Listen and sing along to a song or hymn that blesses and centers your spirit!

CALL to WORSHIP – [www.ucc.org]

Our Creator God

has made us to be One Body with many members.

United and uniting. This is our calling.

God calls us to share our diverse gifts

activated by the one and same Spirit .

United and uniting. This is our redemption.

God longs for us to be united in love

and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

United and uniting. This is our worship.

Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship

to our Holy God, who challenges us

and calls us to create the Beloved Community.

OPENING PRAYER - [www.ucc.org]

O God, all people are your Beloved,

across races, nationalities, religions, sexual orientations

and all the ways we are distinctive from one another.

We are all manifestations of your image.

*We are bound together in an inescapable network of mutuality
and tied to a single garment of destiny.*

You call us into your unending work

of justice, peace and love.

Let us know your presence among us now:

Let us delight in our diversity

that offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty.
Strengthen us with your steadfast love and
transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.
Under the shadow of your wings in this hour
may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope.
We ask this, inspired by the example
of your disciple, Martin Luther King, Jr.,
and in Jesus' name. Amen.

CENTERING HYMN - "Spirit of God", TFWS 2117

Listen here: <https://youtu.be/JIuxFcwrXsg>

Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
glow as you always do; create us anew.
Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands, born on your wings.
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! (2 times)

Spirit of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and love,
healing upon your wings for all living things.
For when we live your peace, captives will find release,
held in your hands, born on your wings.
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! (2 times)

SCRIPTURE - I Corinthians 12:1-11 (NRSV)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment

of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God!**

LISTEN - We give thanks for the message shared by **Rev. Michael Yoshii**.
You can listen to it [here](#).

SONG OF MEDITATION - För Livets Skull/For Sake of Life

Listen here: <https://youtu.be/E3iiI7osPM4>

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE – *Spend time in prayer. What did you hear for yourself through today's scripture and reflection? Talk to God about it. Then lift up the joys and concerns that are in your heart. You might write them down, speak them aloud, or pray for them in silence.*

We would be honored to pray with you and for you.

Please send a note via text, mail, or email or give a call to our Healing Prayer Team.

SHARING OUR GIFTS– *How might you offer yourself and all that you have to God this week? How are you being invited to practice generosity? Spend a moment listening for God's direction.*

Today is **Human Relations Sunday** and you are invited to go an extra mile and give towards our shared commitment that all might know their belovedness. Human Relations Sunday supports the Community Developers Program, the United Methodist Voluntary Service, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

You are invited to contribute financially towards the purpose and ministry of TTUMC. We are a congregation committed to being conduits of God's healing in our neighborhood and beyond, and in so doing, impact the last and the least. You can contribute by mailing in a check, dropping off cash, or giving online (visit www.twintowersumc.org). Take a moment and do that now.

CLOSING HYMN - "Lift Every Voice and Sing", UMH 519

Sing along here: <https://youtu.be/PHn2SSzZszU>

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring

Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise

High as the listening skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present
has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won

Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers
sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has

been watered
We have come, treading our path through the
blood of the slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is
cast

God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the
light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met Thee

BENEDICTION -

Let us embrace the work and wonder of this day
with fresh commitment.

May we go forward together
in the power of the love of God
in the company of Jesus Christ
and by the leading of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

NOW GO AND PASS CHRIST'S PEACE!

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Please make note of these warm invites and gentle reminders:

- **The Re-opening of our Sanctuary is Pushed Back** - Due to the rising number of infections for Covid, we have opted to continue worship via Zoom for the time being. As soon as the numbers begin to decline, we are ready to re-open! If you have not already, please get vaccinated! This helps us all.

- **Healing Prayer Open House** - The healing prayer team invites you to an open house this Thursday (Jan. 20th) and next (Jan. 27th) from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. You are urged to bring your longings for healing to the open house. We will make space to pray together with and for you. The open house is held via Zoom at the following link.
- **January Learning/Growing Opportunity** - In the new year, we are launching *Thank God It's Friday*, an opportunity to end our work week by building our faith. What better way to deepen our faith than by challenging it with “The Difficult Words of Jesus,” a new book by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine? Prof. Levine is an engaging New Testament theologian coming from the unique perspective of an Orthodox Jew.
Deacon Mike will lead us for seven weeks, starting **Friday, January 21**, from 7:00-8:15 pm. Please RSVP to him. Please do buy a copy of Prof. Levine’s book and read the first chapter before the 21st.

Peace, *Emily*