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**June 6, 2021**

Miracles II / The Heart That Hears Us

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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, candles, 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!

**WELCOME** – *(Katharine Hawker @ <https://liturgyoutside.net/bpr25/>)*

The beggar cries out,

“Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

**Grant us the vision to ask for help.**

The one of God responds,

“What do you want?”

**Grant us the peace to hear you.**

The beggar chooses healing,

“Teacher, let me see again.”

**Grant us the courage to choose vision and wholeness.**

The choice collides with life itself,

“Go, your faith has made you well.”

**Grant us the wisdom to go and to follow.**

**OPENING PRAYER** - *Let us join our hearts and minds in prayer...*

We gather in gratitude, Loving God,

that you hear us - always! - through the din and noise of life.

You hear us when we cry out in our loudest voices

and when we whisper in the quiet of our hearts.

You not only hear us,

you always turn and attend to us.

You even invite us to name our need, our longing.

Grant us, indeed, an awareness to ask for help,

a readiness and a peace to hear you,

the courage to choose to see and to be made whole,  
and, yes, the wisdom, but also the wholehearted joy to follow you.

We pray this in the name of the one who makes us holy and whole, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN - Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole, URW 160**

*Listen here:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMjfhRgzdxI>

In your love, make us whole  
May we rest in your compassion  
On the long, weary stroll,  
In the warmth of your love,  
may your peace fill our hearts

May we know the love of Jesus.  
By your grace, you console,  
make us holy, make us whole.

**SCRIPTURE - Mark 10:46-52**

<sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>48</sup> Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>49</sup> Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” <sup>50</sup> So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

**LISTEN** - *During our current worship series, members of the Healing Prayer Team will be sharing their insights on the scripture story and their faith experiences with us. Today, **Dean Larwood** shared his story.*

**SONG OF RESPONSE/MEDITATION - Who Am I? / Casting Crowns**

<https://youtu.be/ciLSve8EhXw>

**HEALING PRAYER EXPERIENCE** - *Give yourself a quiet time in a safe space with these intentions:*

- *To invite a meaningful and healing prayer experience*
- *To encounter Jesus through prayer*

Sit comfortably with your feet firmly planted on the ground. Read through this guide so that you may close your eyes and to take a few slow, deep breaths. (But open your eyes to read again, if you need to do so) Feel your breath fill your lungs and flow out again.

Begin today's prayer experience by remembering that we are not alone. God's tenderness surrounds us...even if we can't or don't sense it. Take a few more breaths and imagine yourself resting in God's tenderness, in God's deep strength. Know that you are in a safe place.

Hear again the words from today's scripture: "Jesus stood still and said...'What do you want me to do for you?'"

As you hear those words, imagine God stopping, coming to stillness, then gently turning Their full attention on you. Let that attention enfold you.

As you continue breathing, trust that God hears and knows your deepest needs, your inner hurts, your deepest longings. Gently breathe in this knowing, loving presence. This may be all you need at this time, just resting and breathing in God's love.

If you feel ready and open, think of some deep need. God already knows about it but express it to God anyway. Be as plain and direct as possible. Name the need. When you have done so, imagine God taking this need up in Their hands and surrounding it with healing, transforming light. Then take a few quiet moments to rest in God's love.

When you feel ready, stretch a bit, gently massage your face and hands, and then slowly open your eyes. Know that God's healing love still enfolds you.

**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 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.*

*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 via PayPal (visit [www.twintowersumc.org](http://www.twintowersumc.org)). Take a moment and do that now.*

**CLOSING HYMN - "His Eye is on the Sparrow", TFWS 2146**

*Listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqlIPUwPmv18>*

Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
and long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is he:

*Refrain:*

His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me; (x2)  
I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
For his eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know he watches me.

2. "Let not your heart be troubled,"  
his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;  
though by the path he leadeth  
but one step I may see:

3. Whenever I am tempted,  
whenever clouds arise,  
when song gives place to sighing,  
when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him,  
from care he sets me free:

**BENEDICTION -**

May we go into this new week with the confidence that God's eye is on us, even us. And filled with that confidence, filled with God's abiding presence and extravagant love, may we go to listen, love, and heal God's world. Amen.

**NOW GO AND PASS CHRIST'S PEACE!**

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:** Mark 4:35-39

I share these notes and invites for the upcoming weeks:

- **Giving Thanks, Blessing Forward -**

- The Graham Family (Bonnie, Joe, Luke, and Shirley) will be moving to Miami at the end of June. They have been an amazing part of our community over the last 3 years, anchoring much of what has happened in our children's Sunday School, and inspiring our Kids Sing experiment. We are incredibly grateful for this time together! You are invited to come and give thanks and bless them forward in a casual outdoor gathering, **Sunday, June 13th between 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.** at Krusi Park. Please RSVP [here](#) and bring a dish to share!
- P. Don Cunningham will be moving to the Sacramento area at the end of June also. P. Don, our Pastor Emeritus, has touched so many of our lives with his presence, his faith and witness, and his wisdom and guidance. There are two ways to show your love and appreciation:
  - *Write a note/card* - We will be collecting notes and cards for P. Don through Sunday, June 20th. These will be put into a scrap book for him. You can send the note/card via email to Patty or through the mail: TTUMC, c/o Patty Yamashita, 1411 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501
  - *Drive by blessing* - We will drive by P. Don's home on San Jose **Sunday, June 20th at 3:00 p.m.** and share a blessing through music and prayer! (We will gather in the mortuary parking lot first at 2:15 p.m. for some special instructions!)
- **Dine & Connect, June 7th** - please hold the upcoming D&C meal in God's care and light. If you feel called to volunteer or pitch in, please connect!
- **We are getting to know Village of Love**, an organization serving the unhoused here in Alameda. Many of you met Joey Harrison, the Village's Executive Director, back in March. Care, Share, & Serve invites you to take another step and get to know the organization and its work! Please connect with Robert Pavacich for possibilities of volunteering.
- A webinar on Saturday, June 12, 10am, presented by the Friends of Wadi Foquin, will provide an update directly from this Palestinian village's residents on the urgent challenge and what we can do to address the situation. Advanced registration is required for this meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErde2qrT4qE9wKErs34UVe3dNBjTHooWtn>

Peace and Grace,

Emily