

Good afternoon friends, We continue our series of messages on Christian Virtues this Sunday. In the midst of so many challenges, we are lifting up the JOY.

Thanks to the technical assistance of Ray Brusca, you have two ways to join us virtually for worship below. You can connect from your computer or you can connect for audio only. If you cannot physically be with us, I hope you will join us on line!

Option 1 – From your computer, tablet or smart phone, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82454979610> . Then follow the instructions to join the Zoom video call. Note that you will have the option to just join using audio and not have your video turned on. If you have not already down loaded the Zoom App onto your computer, tablet or smart phone please do so in advance of the Sunday service.

Option 2 – If you cannot join the Zoom video call using Option 1, the you can join the Zoom call for audio only by dialing an access number listed below and then entering the Meeting ID which is 824 5497 9610

Telephone Access Numbers:

646-558-8656

301-715-8592

312-262-6799

669-900-9128

253-215-8782

346-248-7799

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Seventh Sunday of Pentecost
July 12, 2020

Prelude

Thomas Broadus

Welcome

Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: O God, be thou a bright flame before us this hour

Congregation: Be thou a guiding star above us

Leader: Be thou a smooth path below us

Congregation: Be thou a kindly Shepherd in front of us

Leader: This hour and every hour

***Opening Hymn** “Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee” (see insert)

***Invocation (in unison)**

Almighty God, be among us this hour. Open our eyes, our minds, and our hearts, to visions not yet realized. Teach our hearts, once again, to receive the unexpected and gracious gift of Christ, with joy . In Christ's name, Amen

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Congregation's Blessing (in unison)

Elizabeth, we do not know what God has in mind for you in the future, but this we know – you are now affirmed anew as God's child. May you live a life surrounded by love, and in the light of Christ. Amen

Prayer of illumination “Ancient Words”

Holy words long preserved, for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart, O let the Ancient words impart.
Words of Life, words of Hope, Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam, Ancient words will guide us Home.

This Morning's Texts

Nehemiah 8:1-4, 8-10

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Galatians 5: 22-26

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

*Matthew 5: 11

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you

*Leader: The word of God, for the people of God

***Congregation: Thanks be to God**

Sermon “Christian Virtues: Joy”

Dr. Richard

The Morning Prayers

Prayer Requests
Silent Meditation
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer

Dedication of Our Gifts and Offering*

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow
Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen*

***A Hymn of Commitment** “Come We That Love the Lord *(see insert)*

***The Blessing**

***Choral Benediction** “*God Be With You Til We Meet Again*”

*God be with you til we meet again
By his counsels guide uphold you
With his sheep securely fold you
God be with you til we meet again*

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning, both physically in our sanctuary, and on line.

From My Heart To Yours...

Dear Friends,

The Theologian and Bishop Paul Wilhelm van Keppler wrote a book entitled “More Joy” published before both World Wars. In it, he writes:

Joy is the constituent, a necessity of life.
It is an element of life’s value and life’s
Power. As every human has a need for joy,
So every human has a right to joy. . It is
The condition of Christian living. (1911)

To speak of joy in such a traumatic time as this seems out of place. But

St. Paul has written to the Galatians, who were having this own crises, in difficult times it is important to remember that the joy of being a disciple of Christ is always cause for joy.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

Our UM Conference

The first zoom meeting of the clergy of the newly named Seacoast Conference (which has combined the RISEM and CT. Conferences) was held Thursday morning. You will hear more about it in the weeks ahead. For now, let's be sure to pray for our new brothers and sisters in the conference and our new Dist Superintendent Rev. Dr David Calhoun

Invite Others To Worship

Some things never change. Do you know that for the past five decades the most effective way to grow a Church? It is still when members invite friends; personal testimonies of those who love God and their church.

Your Financial Support is Important

There are two ways to contribute to this church's ministry. If you have an iPhone or Android phone, you can download the app for Tithe.ly (please note how it is spelled, so that you download the correct app). If you have any issue, please email or text Zona at 508.332.0685 or Zona02554@gmail.com. OR, you can send a check to UMC Box 264 Nantucket, MA 02554. If you are here in the sanctuary this morning, there are envelopes and an offering plate in the narthex for you to use for your offering.

The Sacrament of Baptism

We are delighted that Elizabeth Elldridge has asked to be baptized this morning. Presenting her for baptism is her grandfather Nelson "Snooky" Elldridge who is on our board of Trustees. .

CLM Program Offered

The process for this year's Certified Lay Minister candidates begins in August. Certified Lay Ministers serve in many capacities:- some serve in their local church in an assigned ministry function, some serve in a District role, some are asked by the D.S. to provide pulpit supply as part of a ministry team. Speak to Dr Richard if you are interested in this program

Copies of the Upper Room

July/August copies of the **Upper Room** devotional are available in the foyer of the Sanctuary. Please feel free to take a cope when you leave worship this morning.

Directory

Pianist/Organist Thomas Broadus

Lay Leader Sylvester Baptiste

Chair, Admin. Board Marianne Stanton

Chair, Altar Guild and Emeritus Chair, Trustees, Nelson Eldridge

Chair, Trustees Toby Brown

Chair, Mission and Outreach Kathryn Batchelder

Chair, Staff Parish Relations Marianne Stanton

Chair, Stewardship and Finance Zona Tanner-Butler

Technical Coordinator, Ray Brusca

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