

*Faith United Methodist Church*

*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

*February 9, 2020*

*God's People Gather to Worship at 9:00 am*

† OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, from deep within us we know of a loving presence. All around us we see glory, beauty, life and light. We have no words for what we experience so we cry out, "God." In this moment of worship, may that loving presence grow deeper, may our awareness of the divine presence around us grow more intense. May we, gathered in this place, learn to pay more attention to God, who loves us at all times and in all places.

† GREETING This is the day that the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist My Lord, what a morning! You have raised up a mighty nation and a mighty people.

**People And we are strong, proud, and yours.**

Liturgist My Lord, what a morning! You have brought us through the dips and hollows, up and down the streets, over the hills and mountains, and through the valleys.

**People And we are strong, proud, brave and yours.**

**All My Lord, this morning, we have come to celebrate you, to affirm ourselves as images of you in all your glory and to say "Yes, Lord, we are strong, proud, brave, and yours in every way." We count it all joy!**

† OPENING HYMN 494

Kum Ba Yah

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Stony the road we have walked and yet we forget our footsteps. We have, too often, not honored the faith of our foreparents. We have, too often, strayed from the righteous path. We have, too often, been drunk on the wine of the world, and not lived out the radical gospel of service and peace. We have, too often, lived in division and sin. Forgive us, O God. Call us back to our heritage; back to you.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Musical Interlude

*Jeff Murphy*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Holy One — your Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer — forgives your sins. May you walk in the mercy of God. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold, and sweeter than purest honey. As to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 1

*Page 383, pew Bible*

† NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 1:1-8

*Page 854, pew Bible*

OFFERTORY

Lord, we come now to offer our talents, our hearts, our love — our everything. You continue to make a way when there doesn't seem to be one. You ask that we lay everything on the altar and be made whole. Lord, we do. Bless, keep, mold, shape, heal us in every way. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Page 95, UMH*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As we offer treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

† HYMN 140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

SERMON

*Here and Beyond*

Rev. David A. E. Whitt

SHARING OF CONCERNS We pray and God listen, we pray and God answers.

CALL TO PRAYER (VIDEO)

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

PASTORAL PRAYER

The presence of the Lord is here. We feel it in the atmosphere. This holy hour, we bring ourselves into your presence, O God. To you we offer our prayers, our praise, and our supplications.

LORD'S PRAYER (...FORGIVE OUR TRESPASSES)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF JOYS

† CLOSING HYMN 397

I Need Thee Every Hour

† BLESSING

Today is all we have. We will rejoice, we will be renewed and we will learn from the past, cherish today, and welcome the future because you have given us a powerful and sacred history. We will teach and learn, speak and listen, and grow strong every day of every month.

**All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

† HYMN 666

Shalom to You

† Please stand if you are able.