

Welcome to Worship with Memorial United Methodist Church

Sept. 13, 2020, Worship Guide

(On-line Worship Video available any time after 8:30 a.m. Sunday, www.gladstonechurch.org)

Opening Hymn: “O for A Thousand Tongues to Sing” UMH 57, verses 1,2 Praise Team

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 (Public Domain)

Call to Worship: Psalm 145:1-3

Joy Jorgensen

I will lift you up high, my God, the true king.
I will bless your name forever and always.
I will bless you every day.
I will praise your name forever and always.
The Lord is great and so worthy of praise!
God’s greatness can’t be grasped.

Common English Bible, © 2011, Used by Permission.

Opening Praise Song: “10,000 Reasons”

*Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I’ll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it’s a new day dawning, it’s time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes.

You’re rich in love and You’re slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come;

Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman © 2011

Atlas Mountain songs | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. CCLI License #2960180

Sharing from Proverbs 8:1-36

Lorna Benson

Doesn’t Wisdom cry out and Understanding shout? Atop the heights along the path, at the crossroads she takes her stand. By the gate before the city, at the entrances she shouts: I cry out to you, people; my voice goes out to all of humanity. ...

I, Wisdom, dwell with prudence; I have found knowledge and discretion. To fear the Lord is to hate evil. I hate pride and arrogance, the path of evil and corrupt speech. I have advice and ability, as well as understanding and strength. By me kings rule, and princes issue righteous decrees. ... My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold; my crops are better than choice silver.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his way, before his deeds long in the past. I was formed in ancient times, at the beginning, before the earth was. When there were no watery depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs flowing with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth; before God made the earth and the fields or the first of the dry land. ... I was beside him as a master of crafts. I was having fun, smiling before him all the time, frolicking with his inhabited earth and delighting in the human race. ...

Now children, listen to me: Happy are those who keep to my ways! Listen to instruction, and be wise; don’t avoid it. Happy are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorposts. Those who find me find life; they gain favor from the Lord.

Common English Bible, © 2011, Used by Permission.

Praise Song: “More Precious than Silver” TFWS 2065

*Chorus: Lord, you are more precious than silver. Lord, you are more costly than gold.
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds, and nothing I desire compares to you.*

Words and Music by Lynn DeShazo © 1982 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music. CCLI License #2960180

Sharing from the Gospel: John 1:1-17

Sharon Block

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word was with God in the beginning. Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being. What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn’t extinguish the light. ... The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Common English Bible, © 2011, Used by Permission.

Message for Today: “A World of Meaning”

Pastor Cathy Rafferty

Sung Response: “O God Who Shaped Creation” UMH 443, verses 1-3, 5 (Tune: Aurelia)

O God who shaped creation at earth’s chaotic dawn, your word of power was spoken, and lo! the dark was gone! You framed us in your image, you brought us into birth, you blessed our infant footsteps and shared your splendored earth.

O God, with pain and anguish a mother sees her child embark on dead-end pathways, alluring, but defiled; so too your heart is broken when hate and lust increase, when worlds you birthed and nurtured spurn ways that lead to peace.

Although your heart is broken when people scorn your ways, you never cease your searching through evil’s darksome maze; and when we cease our running, your joys, O God, abound like joy of searching woman when treasured coin is found.

O God, when trinkets tarnish and pleasures lose their charm; when, wearied by our wandering, we seek your opened arm. With motherlike compassion you share your warm embrace. You set for us a banquet and heal us through your grace.

In mercy and compassion your goodness is revealed; with tenderness you touch us, and broken hearts are healed. You claim us as your children, you strip our prideful shame; with freedom born of mercy we bless your holy name!

Words: William W. Reid, Jr., 1987, © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Offering Our Gifts and Commitments

Please give online at www.gladstonechurch.org

Or mail checks payable to: Memorial UMC, 1920 Lake Shore Dr., Gladstone, MI 49837

Offering Our Prayers and The Lord’s Prayer

Please email prayer requests to mumc@gladstonechurch.org or call (906) 428-9311

Blessing

Thank you for worshipping with us. I hope you’ll join us next time for worship as “We Make the Road by Walking” through the drama of desire. Until then ... May we recognize the creative patterns of God, living in the way of Jesus, and guided by the Spirit of wisdom.

Sung Response: “Step by Step” W&S 3004

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways; and step by step you’ll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

David (Beaker) Strasser

Copyright: 1991 Kid Brothers of St. Frank Publishing, Universal Music; Brentwood Benson Publishing

Used by Permission. CCLI License #2960180