

MIDDLESETTLEMENTS UMC
Sunday Morning At-Home Worship
March 22, 2020

WELCOME

To those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

—1 Corinthians 1:2-3

Before we begin, you might find it helpful to light a candle as you pray:

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls."

—from Matthew 11:28-29

HYMN, My Hope Is Built

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. [Refrain]

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace.

In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood.

When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found!

Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne! [Refrain]

[Refrain]: On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Take a few moments to silently confess known sins of the day, sins that weigh upon you, and patterns of sin in your life.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

—Psalm 103:10, 12

Thanks be to God!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN, Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O What a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. [Refrain]
Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]
Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]
[Refrain]: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Living God, give us a spirit of wisdom and of revelation, so that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, the eyes of our hearts might be enlightened to know the hope to which you have called us, the riches of the glorious inheritance in the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of your power at work in us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—from Ephesians 1:17-19

SCRIPTURE—Isaiah 49:8-16a

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE—Psalm 131

My heart is not proud, Lord, my eyes are not haughty.

I do not occupy myself with great matters, or with things that are too hard for me.

But I still my soul and make it quiet, like weaned child with its mother; my soul is quieted within me.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE—Matthew 6:19-34

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

RESPONSE

AFFIRM

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Christ Jesus, though being in very nature God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

—from Philipians 2:6-11

GIVE

Giving is an act of worship & an expression of gratitude to God. We offer Him ourselves and the material world He has placed under our care. Our tithes and offerings become a means of spreading the gospel, strengthening disciples, and serving the needy.

Offerings may be mailed to:
Middlesettlements UMC
2729 Middlesettlements Rd
Maryville, TN 37801.

SERVE

For more information, contact Pastor Magan at 865.300.1831 or pastor.middlesettlements@gmail.com

- * Sign up to write or phone visit our church family who live alone or who need to self-isolate
- * Volunteer to drop off groceries to those needing to stay at home
- * Volunteer to video record yourself reading scripture for Sunday At-Home Worship
- * Volunteer to call someone to go through the Sunday At-Home Worship together
- * Volunteer to write or video your testimony to share with the church
- * Write a devotion that can be shared with our on- and off-line community

PRAY

Let us pray for:

- * *The Church Universal—its members, mission, unity, and witness*
- * *Middlesettlements United Methodist Church—its members, mission, unity, and witness*
- * *Our nation and its leaders*
- * *Our neighbors, enemies, and those who do not yet know our God*
- * *All affected by the Coronavirus, whether by sickness, loss, isolation, supply shortages, or fear*
- * *Those that grieve or suffer (especially those on our prayer list)*
- * *The sick (especially those on our prayer list)*

Eternal Father, you know our thoughts and needs better than we ourselves. Accept the prayers that we offer and strengthen us to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has taught us to say: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

BLESS

The Almighty and Merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

MUMC PRAYER LIST:

- **Steve & Donna Hammontree**, and her parents **Wayne & Sue Dickerson**, whose home was destroyed by the Nashville tornadoes
- **Elaine Butcher**, recovering at LifeCare in Louisville **Martha Vargas** and family at the death of her husband, Hank Vargas
- **J.B. O'Connor**
- Luther Goodson asks that we pray for **Jan Goodson**, home from UT Hospital and recovering from an infection
- Kurt and Jill Baltutat ask that we pray for **Bob Tolles** as he begins his second round of chemotherapy
- Cindy Alloway asks that we pray for **Nancy Brown** and family
- Leighanne Sisk asks that we pray for **Nadine Henegar** (her grandmother), recovering from surgery in ICU at Blount Memorial
- Judy Goodson asks that we pray for **Jim Lester** (her brother) who is being treated for liver cancer in Lake Worth, FL
- Maria Carpenter Wright asks that we pray for a **neighbor and cousin who are currently being tested for COVID-19**
- Bridget Jenkins asks that we continue to pray for **Holly Child** (her daughter) who is undergoing cancer treatments
- Roland and Leona Mote ask that we pray for **Teresa Giuliani**.