



**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE

March 7, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Prayers for all of us during this time we are physically separated one from another.

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Riva

Silent Meditation *(Let us all be in silent meditation as the candles are lit)*

Prelude

“Waltz in c-sharp minor, op. 64, #2”

Frederic Chopin

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 22

Veronica Johnson, Stacy Johnson

Leader: All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God’s creative power!

People: Praise God for the amazing and awesome beauty.

Leader: God has given to us codes by which to live together in harmony and peace.

People: In these commandments, God has summed up the ways we must respect one another.

ALL: Rejoice in the goodness of God. Praise God for God’s complete and steadfast love for us. Amen.

Hymn #187

“Rise, Shine, You People”

- v. 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story;
God in him is centered. Christ comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.
- v. 2 See how he sends the powers of evil reeling,
and brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.
- v. 3 Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go our and tell the story of Jesus’ glory.
- v. 4 Tell how the Father sent his Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from every nation God’s new creation.

Opening Prayer

Veronica Johnson, Stacy Johnson

Leader: God, prepare us to be tried and true, pure and holy sanctuaries. And, with thanksgiving, Holy One, we’ll live as Spirit-filled, healed and transformed sanctuaries just for you. As we gather before you, Wonderful and Magnificent God, reveal yourself to us as you did to Moses on Mt. Sinai. Speak to us in ways that illumine our darkness and enliven our steps. Come alive in us, call us by name and give us the commandments of new life that will order our steps in this time of worship and as we leave this place. Move our hearts closer to yours and center our thoughts on worshiping you and you alone. Wherever

you find us, whether on bended knee, seated, or standing, transform us into your image of perfect love; create within us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us!

People: Amen.

Children's Moment I love...I honor Pastor Riva

Scripture John 2:13-22 (NRSV) Veronica Johnson, Stacy Johnson
ALL: Thanks be to God!

Gift of Song "You Are My All in All" Dennis Jernigan
Aza Donnelly, soloist

Meditation "Passive or Active...What kind of church are we?" Pastor Riva

The Social Creed (from the 2016 Book of Resolution)

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

Words of Institution

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (John Wesley's Covenant Prayer – Modern Version)

ALL: I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

Offertory Music "Waltz in A-flat" Johannes Brahms

Offertory Prayer

Veronica Johnson, Stacy Johnson

Voice 1: God of holiness and grace, we know the words of your commandments. In our hearts, we know that following them makes life easier, not harder; fuller, not more restricted. We know there is no God greater than you, yet we have made the silliest things our gods and have thrown our money and resources after them.

Voice 2: *As we offer our gifts this day, we are reminded that only you have given the gift of a savior and the redemption of our rebellious lives. In Christ's name, we trust and pray.*

ALL: Amen.

Centering Meditation

Pastor Nancy

Lord's Prayer

Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father*) in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**Please use whichever name connects you deeply to the Divine.*

Hymn #267

"O Love, How Deep"

- v. 1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, it fills the heart with ecstasy, that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake!
- v. 2 For us baptized, for us he bore his holy fast and hungered sore, for us temptation sharp he knew; for us the tempter overthrew.
- v. 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his daily works he wrought; by words and signs and actions thus still seeking not himself, but us.
- v. 4 For us to evil power betrayed, scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed, he bore the shameful cross and death, for us gave up his dying breath.
- v. 5 For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign; for us he sent his Spirit here, to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
- v. 6 All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad: the Trinity whom we adore, forever and forevermore.

Benediction

Pastor Riva

Postlude

"Prelude in c-sharp minor"

J. S. Bach

Worship Participants

Readers: Veronica Johnson, Stacy Johnson

Gift of Music: Aza Donnelly

Worship Team

Lead Pastor: Pastor Riva Tabelisma

Teaching Elder: Rev. Dr. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud

Music: Dan Ritter

Audio & Video Recording: Andy Bixler/James Bordewick/Les Johnson

Video Editing: James Bordewick/Riva Tabelisma

Centering Prayer

Gracious God of justice and mercy, Thank you for hearing us as we center our lives in you.

We confess this morning how weary we are, yet so anxious about the days ahead.

Some of us are relieved with the vaccines we have received and overjoyed to share hugs with our loved ones. Yet others are still waiting, wondering "How long, O God?"

So we keep praying, surrounding those who are grieving and those accompanying their beloveds until their last breaths of life.

Yet if we only focus on our losses, we will lose sight of the wonder and beauty of these precious days. For sunshine, melting snow renewing the soil, and geese v'ing across the skies heading north. Your world never stands still God. Sometimes we get so distracted by trivialities and temptations that we lose sight of what's truly important.

Are you still calling our names, O God? Are you still wanting us to rise up and hope?

You've been calling so long, you've been sending so long, what shall we do, O my God, what shall we do?

It is one thing to have faith, that trouble won't last always.

It is one thing to hope for an end to the ills that beset us-- the divisions that decrease us, the hate that defines us.

But it is another thing all together to be part of the change, to say no more to racism, to change our hearts and our world.

What shall we do, O God, what shall we do?

Are you still calling our names, O God?

Are you still wanting us to rise up and hope, with hands and words as well as heart?

You've been calling so long. What shall we do?

We hear the voices of those crying in the streets.

We remember that your prophets asked how we can say peace, peace, when there is no justice?

Today your children cry out for justice in the murder trial of Derek Chauvin.

We pray for him, for lawyers and jury members, and for all of those mourning the loss of George Floyd-- those who knew him closely, and the many many people here at home and around the world who knew him only through his cries for breath.

Forgive us, O God, for not examining the sinful systems in which we were raised.

Grant us your Spirit that we may be transformed and all may have abundant life.

We, although many, are one in Christ Jesus.

But its so hard to see him in the face of another.

Let us trust in his grace and his challenge to love our neighbors.

We celebrate our diversity, given to us by God.

Where our community is fractured, we pledge to work for repair.

We pledge to work in cooperation with others, listening and speaking with caring.

We celebrate the wholeness of all persons, in the image of God.

O gracious God, equip us now for the work of liberation and compassion, of justice, kindness and mercy, as we try to walk humbly with you this Lenten season.

So as we walk, let us walk the talk as we pray the prayer Christ Jesus taught his disciples:

Lord's Prayer

Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father*) in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Resources:

From ***Knitted Together for God's Good Work: United Methodist Women Program Book 2020-2021***, Communications Department of the United Methodist Women, 2020, p. 43.

Derek C. Weber, February 2021. *Praying for Change: Daily prayers for anti-racism*

Coming up this week:

Sunday, March 7

- 9:00 a.m. [Adult Sunday School \(Zoom\)](#)
- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

Monday, March 8

- 5:30 p.m. Drive-Through Community Meal (Parking Lot)

Tuesday, March 9

- 6:30 p.m. Core Team Meeting ([Zoom](#))

Wednesday, March 10

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Book Study – John Wesley Room

Sunday, March 14

- 9:00 a.m. [Adult Sunday School \(Zoom\)](#)
- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

March is Food Share Month.

Though the pandemic continues about us, the need for food continues. This year, bring your donations for SACA to the church parking lot entryway on Tuesdays, Wednesday, or Thursdays during March. We’ll make sure they get to SACA. Thank you for continuing your care of those around us.

Easter Lily/Donation Form: is available on the website, and some printed copies are in the entryway on the pickup area. Orders must be received by March 22. Questions to Karen Schneider.

Community Meal: It is returning in a drive-through version on **Monday, March 8** from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

UMW Easter Bake Sale is being held on March 27th. This will be a Drive-Thru sale of Cookies, Bars, Brownies, Pecan Tassies, Chocolate Suckers, Breads and Carmel Puff Corn. Pictures and prices can be seen on the order form on the church Web Site – www.communitymethodistchurch.org. Orders need to be called to Mary Tholkes at 763-202-0796 no later than March 21st. Please try to help support the Missions of the UMW.

Church Gift Shop: If you wish to buy items from the church gift shop, contact Pat Good (phone 651-348-6688). These items can be picked up on Wednesday mornings at 11 A.M.

Be part of the worship service: Email Pastor Riva: leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org for details.

Emergency Phone Number: If you need to contact the pastors for an emergency that cannot wait until the office phone is checked, we have added an emergency phone number: 612-757-7115. This is a cell phone that goes to the pastor on call.

Giving Options:

Electronic Giving has two options. One is using the app **Give+** on your smartphone (Android or iPhone), or via the church website. Check out the videos at: <https://communitymethodistchurch.org/online-giving/>. Otherwise, mailing in a check works great (950 Gould Ave NE, Columbia Heights, 55421).

Tech support ministry: If you need help in checking out your electronic devices in order to participate in our virtual service, send us (office@communitymethodistchurch.org or leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org) a note and we can send someone to come check it out for you (following safety guidelines and protocol).



Our Vision

We are an urban, intergenerational, inclusive, and welcoming Christian fellowship woven into the fabric of our community.

Community UMC's Statement of Reconciliation:

Community United Methodist Church of Columbia Heights believes that we are all children of God, individuals of sacred worth, created in God's image with our many differences, and that God loves all people. We recognize that God's love is not limited by boundaries. Therefore, we welcome and affirm people of all ages, races, ethnicities, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, physical capabilities, or mental abilities.

We believe that prejudice, hatred, or discrimination directed toward any individual or group is contrary to the life, spirit, and teaching of Jesus Christ. We have vowed to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression. Therefore, we shall work to eliminate prejudice and discriminatory practices within ourselves and our community, and to show God's grace. We proclaim ourselves a Reconciling Congregation and welcome all who seek a relationship with God.

Adopted November 3, 2019

Our Staff

Lead Pastor	Pastor Riva Tabelisma
Teaching Pastor	Rev. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud
Ministers	All the Congregation
Office Manager	Martha Bentley
Music Director	Dan Ritter
Bell Choir Director	Karen Schneider

Church Office Phone: 763-788-9009

Emergency/Pastor Contact Phone Number: 612-757-7115

Pastor Riva Tabelisma's email:

leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org

Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud's email:

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Office Email: office@communitymethodistchurch.org

Visit us online at www.communitymethodistchurch.org
or find us on Facebook