



**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE

March 14, 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

“Moonlight Sonata, First Movement”

Ludwig van Beethoven

Call to Worship

Leader: At a time when humankind had exhausted its own efforts to know and be known by God, the Word became flesh and lived among us. (John 1:14.) Jesus came to us; God with us, revealing God to us.

People: Jesus came to us, the ultimate act of hospitality.

Leader: Jesus remained with us for a time, in spite of our dull understanding and willful acts against God. He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. He humbled himself and submitted to the humiliation of death on a cross.

People: Jesus came to us in the ultimate act of self-sacrifice.

Leader: Jesus came to us as the ultimate expression of love.

All: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life"

Hymn #420

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

- v. 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
- v. 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
- v. 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
- v. 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Opening Prayer

Kari Trench

Gracious God, so often we have missed your presence because we are looking for you clothed in a particular way. Let this time of worship be an encounter with you that will enable us to behold you in all the people we meet and all the situations we greet. You are from everlasting to everlasting, so we are confident that you are here; help us to be aware of your holy presence. O Lord, enrich this act of worship with the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Children's Moment

“God loves me...no matter what”

Pastor Riva

Scripture	John 3:14-21 (NRSV)	Kari Trench
ALL:	Thanks be to God!	
Gift of Song	“O How He Loves You and Me” James Bordewick, soloist	Kurt Kaiser
Meditation	“The Essence of Faith and Grace”	Pastor Riva
Offertory Music	“The Light of the World is Jesus”	Philip Bliss/ Mark Hayes
Offertory Prayer		Pastor Riva
	Great and generous God, our lives are surrounded by things that steal our lives, inflict and destroy us. The tithes and offering we share with you this day are a way of keeping us focused not on the things that would take life away but will renew our lives: hope, love, compassion, empathy. As the Israelites looked to a serpent on a pole for healing, we look to a Savior on a cross to be brought back to life. In that holy name, Jesus the Messiah, we pray. 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.	
	<i>*Please use whichever name connects you deeply to the Divine.</i>	
Hymn #2073	“Celebrate Love”	
<i>refrain</i>	Celebrate love, love, love. Celebrate love, love, love. Celebrate love so amazing. He’s creating his wonderful love in you.	
<i>v. 1</i>	We can celebrate his love today. Jesus loves everyone. We can celebrate new life today. Jesus loves everyone.	
<i>refrain</i>		
<i>v. 2</i>	We can sing about his love for us. Jesus loves everyone. He is living here inside of us. Jesus loves everyone.	
<i>refrain</i>		
Benediction		Pastor Riva
Postlude	“Allegro Maestoso”	G. F. Handel

Worship Participants	
Reader:	Kari Trench
Gift of Music:	James Bordewick
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 and most merciful God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, We, your people, gather in this time to seek hope and courage. We turn to you even with our fears and anxieties and cruelties because you are with us, as we are, and through your love, we become who we may be.

Bell

God today, our hearts are sorrowing for all we can not save, even ourselves. Our hearts are broken-wide by the heavy weight of our history. Help us become aware of your calm, clear presence that surrounds us, beyond us, and within us. You know the deep-down truth of us, in our innermost being, thus we need your wisdom in our heart of hearts.

Have mercy on us, God, according to your steadfast love.

With the ancient psalm-singer, we pray:

Create in us a clean heart O God And renew a right spirit within us.

Cast us not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore unto us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with a willing spirit.

Then we may be bearers of your love to others.

Bell

O God of justice and compassion, we lift up to you those who have been silenced by hardship, affliction, and injustice. Forgive us for not speaking up for the least among us.

We confess that we have not exercised our influence and position to change things.

Grant us the courage to be agents of change and witnesses to justice.

Bell

We continue to pray for people who feel especially vulnerable and triggered at this time by the memories emerging again in the trial of Derek Chauvin, with images and videos of a despairing, powerless death and streets engulfed with fire and violence.

Help us comfort one another, and walk beside one another reminding ourselves of our belovedness, beauty and dignity. Created in your image, we give thanks for our lives, and affirm that nothing can separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus.

We pray gracious God, for healing in our lives and in our world.

Especially this week we pray for healing for Jim Reinholdson's sister, Lynn and those we know recovering from surgery, or sickness.

We give thanks for opportunities to receive a first or second vaccine, and we remember those who are waiting in good faith, for their time.

As we look out upon our world we are mindful of people on the move, fleeing their homes and seeking refuge, whether as children at the Texas/Mexico border, or those facing hunger, drought and war in Yemen, and protesters calling for democracy in Myanmar.

Bell

Sustainer God, inspire us and strengthen us for the journey ahead.

As a church, as people of faith, bless us with courage and humility to invite others toward your beloved community.

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:

1. Psalm 51
2. Taylor Marie James, *Africana Liturgical Resources for Lent*, Safiyah Fosua, ed.
3. Junius Dotson, *The Africana Worship Book, For Year B*, Valerie Bridgeman Davis, PhD and Safiyah Fosua, eds., (Discipleship Resources, 2007), 156.
4. Bishop John Schol, Bishop of The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey.

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.

Community Dinner On Again

We served our first drive-by dinner in March under the leadership of Bill, Fred and Kim. We need your help serving as before. It's a little easier if it doesn't rain or snow. We did deliver meals to non drivers. If that is something you could volunteer to do we would consider continuing that plan. 8 meals went to 965 40th avenue so it was close. We used the knock and leave the meal--no visiting. We passed out 56 meals and had 9 volunteers preparing, dishing up, and delivering the meals.

Coming up this week:

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

Wednesday, March 17

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

Saturday, March 20

Newsletter Deadline for the April Issue.

Sunday, March 21

- 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

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:

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Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud's email:

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Office Email: office@communitymethodistchurch.org

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