



**COMMUNITY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

*REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE*

**November 22, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.**

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

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

**Prelude**

*“Nocture, op. 9, #2”*

Frédéric Chopin

**Call to Worship**

Karen and Bill Schneider

*Voice 1: We are virtually gathered this morning to worship God.*

*Voice 2: We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community and insight.*

*Voice 1: We have come to open ourselves to the power of God’s presence in our midst.*

**Both: We are virtually gathered to offer up the seasons and the turnings in our lives,  
and to ask God’s help in our learning and in our growing.**

**Hymn #2236**

*“Gather Us In”*

- v. 1 Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- v. 2 We are the young our lives are a myst’ry, we are the old who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of hist’ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
- v. 3 Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- v. 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, lightyears away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in all people together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**Opening Prayer**

Mary Tholkes

God of tenderness, we thank you that you care for us individually and intimately. We thank you that you know us through and through and yet love us. Jesus said that the hairs of our heads are numbered and that you care even for the sparrows. Are you aware of our needs, so awaken us to the needs of others, that we may respond in concern. Amen.

**Gift of Song**

*“This I Pray”*

Heather Sorensen

Elaine Hill, soloist; Sharon Ruhnke, pianist

**Children’s Moment**

**Scripture** Matthew 25:31-46 (NRSV) Fred Carter

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Meditation** "How righteous are we?" Pastor Riva

**Centering Meditation** Pastor Nancy

**Lord's Prayer**

**Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father\*) in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

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

**Hymn #2094** "Carol of the Epiphany"

- v. 1 I sought him dressed in finest clothes, where money talks and status grows; but power and wealth he never chose: It seems he lived in poverty.
- v. 2 I sought him in the safest place, remote from crime or cheap disgrace; but safety never knew his face: It seems he lived in jeopardy.
- v. 3 I sought him where the spotlights glare, where crowds collect and critics stare; but no one knew his presence there: It seemed he lived in obscurity.
- v. 4 Then, in the streets, we heard the word that seemed, for all the world absurd: That those who could no gifts afford were entertaining Christ the Lord.
- v. 5 And so, distinct from all we'd planned, among the poorest of the land, we did what few might understand: We touched God in a baby's hand.

**Benediction** Pastor Riva

**Postlude** "Trumpet Tune in G" John Roberts

**Worship Participants**

Karen and Bill Schneider  
Mary Tholkes  
Fred Carter  
Elaine Hill  
Sharon Ruhnke

**Worship Team**

**Lead Pastor:** Pastor Riva Tabelisma  
**Teaching Elder:** Rev. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud  
**Music:** Dan Ritter  
**Audio & Video Recording:** Andy Bixler  
**Video Editing:** James Bordewick

## Our Weekly Prayers for Centering in God's Presence:

God of abundance and generosity,  
We praise you from whom all blessings flow,  
We praise you with all creatures here we know.  
We praise you, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit as we bring our hearts together.  
God, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving holidays,  
When we will not be together as usual with our families, friends and loved ones,  
When the heartache of loneliness may be more acute  
And the memories of those not with us more vivid,  
May we experience your still, quiet presence in surprising ways.  
We do confess, some days are very hard.  
On those days, may we know that we are loved.  
May we remember that hope and healing surround us, that we are not alone.  
And if one can't remember, or trust, or feel  
May we be your Presence for one another.  
God, help us to persist, even though we want to give up.  
God, help us to keep trying, although we can't see what good it does.  
God, help us to keep praying, although we're not sure you hear us.  
God, help us to keep living in ways that seek to do your will.  
God, help us to know when to lead and when to follow.  
God, help us to know when to speak and when to remain silent.  
God, help us to know when to act and when to wait.  
May we be gentle in a world that has accommodated itself to bullying.  
May we seek truth in a world that has grown comfortable with lies.  
May we pursue justice in a world that turns its eyes away from suffering.  
May we choose love in a world where hate can gain the upper hand.  
May we choose Jesus, and as his thankful people, let us learn from him, he who stood  
with the vulnerable and didn't settle for the ways things are. It is his prayer that we still  
pray in our time:  
Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father\*) in heaven,  
Holy is your name.  
Your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

### Resources:

Beth Richardson [https://betharichardson.com/2015/09/02/some-days-are-very-hard/?fbclid=IwARiXeOH\\_sRWaMzaUgGsk4T7w-a\\_g932Ok4KdVQhQeNeUV6\\_YuXWMdR79Zd8](https://betharichardson.com/2015/09/02/some-days-are-very-hard/?fbclid=IwARiXeOH_sRWaMzaUgGsk4T7w-a_g932Ok4KdVQhQeNeUV6_YuXWMdR79Zd8)  
Marian Wright Edelman, *Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations for our Children* (harper/Perennial, 1995, p. 65).  
#WhereLoveLivesUMC

## Coming up this week:

### Sunday, November 22

- 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, November 23

- 6:00 p.m. Meditation on Lament (FB)

### Thursday, November 26

*Thanksgiving – Office Closed*

### Sunday, November 29

- 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

**Cookie Walk (Covid Style) cancelled:** The UMW has decided NOT to hold the Cookie Walk due to the safety considerations.

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

**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](mailto:office@communitymethodistchurch.org) or [leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org)) a note and we can send someone to come check it out for you (following safety guidelines and protocol).

**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.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study** is meeting at 9:30 am indoors in the John Wesley Room, wearing masks and socially distancing in chairs. For more information, contact Pastor Nancy at [nvictorinvangerud@hamline.edu](mailto:nvictorinvangerud@hamline.edu).

### 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).



## **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](mailto:leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org)

**Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud's email:**

[nvictorinvangerud01@hamline.edu](mailto:nvictorinvangerud01@hamline.edu)

**Office Email:** [office@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:office@communitymethodistchurch.org)

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