



**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE

March 21, 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

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Frederick Maker/arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship

Leader: We are alive to see this new day – Shout hallelujah my brothers and sisters.

People: Hallelujah! We are God’s people.

Leader: Behold, the Lord has made a new covenant with us. Our hearts and minds will be renewed and restored. Rejoice and be glad for now we will know and see God’s awesome power more clearly.

People: Hallelujah! We are God’s people.

Hymn #57

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

- v. 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
- v. 2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
- v. 3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
‘tis music in the sinner’s ears, ‘tis life, and health, and peace.
- v. 4 He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.
- v. 5 He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
- v. 7 In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

Opening Prayer

Les & Jan Johnson

O God of our Hearts, You yearn to be so close to us that we can know you in every breath, in every hope, in every relationship. Meet us here today and teach us to recognize the covenant of justice, peace and love you have written on our hearts. So may our desires become your desires, our work become your work, and our community the place where you are sought and found. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Children’s Moment

“I will follow God’s Rule of Love”

Pastor Riva

Scripture

John 12:20-33 (NRSV)

Les & Jan Johnson

ALL:

Thanks be to God!

Gift of Song "Above All" Lenny LeBlanc, Paul Baloche
Naomi Jones, soloist

Meditation "Do we see the righteousness of our suffering?" Pastor Riva

Offertory Music "I Need Thee Every Hour" Robert Lowry/arr. Mark Hayes

Offertory Prayer Pastor Riva

God of compassion, when we failed to keep your commandments and rebelled against that which would bring peace and joy to our lives, your love was so great that you offered us a new covenant – not written on tablets, but on our hearts. In our giving, and in all our offerings, may it be our lives, our love and devotion that we bring to your altar. May we remember in our giving that you loved us so much that the sacrifice of your Son on the cross for us was not too great a cost. Our gifts are meager in comparison, but let them remind us of what you gave first. In Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, 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.

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

Hymn #2130 "The Summons"

- v. 1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- v. 2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
- v. 3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- v. 4 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
- v. 5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Benediction Pastor Riva

Postlude "Vivace" Peter Prellieur

Worship Participants

Readers: Les & Jan Johnson

Gift of Music: Naomi Jones

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

Beautiful and bountiful God, Holy One, Holy Three, giver of covenant and promise, source of creation's lively spark dark ground of our very being...

God, we place you as first in our lives.

Today, we find ourselves searching, we find ourselves yearning, we find ourselves empty as vessels seeking to be filled.

So we turn to you as first in our lives O God.

Bless us this Lent with companions for the journey.

Gift us friends with whom we can deeply share. Grant us a sense of wholeness, fullness, abundance as vessels ready to serve a thirsty people.

God, may you be first in our lives. This morning, as we listen for the cries of creation,

We lift of the people of Myanmar as they are being crushed and silenced for the sake of democracy. May their resistance and struggles be the seeds of a new people, that out of death may come new life, with no suffering in vain.

God of healing, we pray for individuals and families still facing the infections and deaths of COVID.

Help us keep at our practices of safety and mitigation as we aim toward immunity and recovery for all of us as a nation and throughout our neighborhoods, schools, hospitals and businesses.

God of the open table, the bread and wine of abundance, and oil of healing and gladness, we give thanks for our community here in Columbia Heights, For leaders in our community who stand for compassion, peace and justice.

This morning may we draw from Mayor Amáda Márquez Simula's words as a prayer on our lips, as she invites everyone to be extra kind and listen well during these days of intense litigation and community response:

May we: "Be extra kind to people who are struggling with anger, pain, and frustration.

Be extra kind to people who are feeling the weight of their own experiences with racism, bigotry, and exclusion. Be extra kind to young people. They have friends from diverse backgrounds who they want to love and support. They are watching us and they are listening to the news. May we take time to have honest conversations about their fears, hopes, and feelings. May we share with them our values and what we are doing to help our city be a more welcoming and inclusive place.

Be extra kind to our Columbia Heights Police Officers and Multicultural Advisory Committee who are working hard to rebuild trust with our communities of color.

And please listen well.

We give thanks for so many important conversations this year.

And there is always more to learn.

If Black community members are brave enough to share their feelings and stories with us, please listen well.

So many people of color have struggled for equality since the beginning of our country and Derek Chauvin's actions have been a painful reminder of how much farther we have to go.

We have had a long hard year, and many of us are tired and worn down.

But there are signs of hope in our community.

We can see it in the faces of young people going back to classrooms with friends from diverse races and cultures.

We can see it at the grocery store where our amazing neighbors from around the world smile and wave.

We can see so many signs of hope.

Let's keep this hope alive by being extra kind, and listening well this month.

We know we can do it."

So as we walk this Lenten journey, 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.

Prayer resources:

1. Mayor Amada Márquez Simula,
<https://www.facebook.com/voteamada/photos/a.116715016530710/275758850626325/>
2. Ernesto R. Medina, from ***Race and Prayer: Collected Voices Many Dreams*** edited by Malcolm Boyd and Chester L. Talton (Morehouse Publishing, 2003), 195.
<https://mailchi.mp/umcdiscipleship/praying-for-change-daily-prayers-for-anti-racism-2866128?e=c822b8debc>

Coming up this week:

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

Monday, March 22

- 5:30 p.m. Community Meal (Drive-Through Pick-Up)

Tuesday, March 23

- 2:00 p.m. Eve Circle

Wednesday, March 24

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

Sunday, March 28 – Palm Sunday

- 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.

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:

nvictorinvangerud01@hamline.edu

Office Email: office@communitymethodistchurch.org

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