



Asbury United Methodist Church

July 2, 2023

143 Ann Mary Brown Drive

Warwick, RI 02888

(401) 467-5122

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Prelude: Kyung Hee Lee

Greeting

Announcements

Asbury Mission Statement

We are Asbury! Abundantly thankful to God; Saved by Christ's resurrection; Blessed by God; United by Christ's love for each of us; Reaching out to our church family and our community; Yearning to tell the Good News to all by being Christ's voice, hands, and feet in the world.

Birthdays

2 Barbara Cavallaro

3 Kelsey Bishop, Matthew Lucini

4 Erin Quist, Kaitlyn Travassos

Flower Dedication

Centering Prayer: (Centering prayer creates in us a good, rich soil. In the moments of centering, we are wide open to receive all that the Word has to give us. We let go of everything else; we are boundless listening to the Word.)

L: Let my prayers rise directly to you, O Lord. Let nothing come between us.

P: Let me not hesitate to mediate or compose a careful response to your presence, but allow what comes naturally, crying out the only word I need; "God."

L: No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him. (1st Corinthians 2: 9)

P: Love calls to us. "You are mine; this day I will become your Beloved; ask of me what you will."

(From psalm 1)

P: Christ Jesus is with us. Find life through Him, with His words written upon our hearts, always there.

Go this week and live the church, serving in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: The Faith we Sing # 2148 Over My Head vs 1,2,3

Postlude Kyung Hee Lee

ALL: I call aloud to You, and You answer me within my heart. (From Psalm 2)

Moment of silent reflection.

***Opening Hymn: UMH # 185 When Morning Gilds the Skies (vs. 1,3,4)**

Opening Prayer:

Holy God, We thank you for the privilege of gathering here today to glorify your name. Your grace has allowed us to be together. You have promised that whenever we call on your name, you will hear and answer us. Come into our midst, God and have fellowship with us. Make your blessings abundant and grace us with your presence. Be among us from the beginning of this time of worship until we leave this place. **AMEN**

Passing of the Peace: When we regularly pass the peace, we practice God's call to make every effort to maintain the bond of peace. It embodies our identity as peacemakers and trains our hearts, hands, and tongues in the ways of peace. Don't forget to include those joining our worship service at home.

Prayers of Joy and Concern: Let us lift up our joys and concerns to our great God who hears and cares for each of us.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer: (Matthew 6: 9-13) **This then is how you should pray:**

Our, Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as forgive our debtors, And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Invitation: This is our opportunity to give and make a difference. Don't worry that the gift you bring is too small. Great changes can arise from the smallest gift. Listen to His whisper that tells us to share our resources of time, energy, prayer and money in abundant love and caring.

The Word in Music

Doxology UMH #95

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Creator God from whom all blessings flow, we dedicate our tithes and offerings and acknowledge that you have blessed us and called us. You search the recesses of our minds and the depths of our hearts. You call us to be not only givers, but also receivers of your gifts of grace. Help us to be faithful disciples who recognize that everything we have in life is a gift from you. Inspire us to share our resources as a response to your unconditional love. **AMEN**

We Hear the Word... Let us Talk to God

Scripture Readings:

1st Peter 2: 9-10

But you are a chosen people a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Ephesians 4: 1-6, 11-12

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle: be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

And Christ gives gifts to people – He made some to be apostles and some to be prophets, some to go and tell the good news and some to have the work of caring for and teaching God's people. Christ gave these gifts to prepare God's holy people for the work of serving, to make the body of Christ stronger.

Psalms 139: 1-6 Lord, you have examined me and know all about me. You know when I sit down and when I get up. You know my thoughts before I think them. You know where I go and where I lie down. You know thoroughly everything I do. Lord, even before I say a word, you already know it. You are all around me - in

front and in back - and have put your hand on me. Your knowledge is amazing to me; it is more than I can understand.

The Word of God that is still speaking.

Thanks be to God.

The Faith We Sing #2068 I Love You Lord

Message: Jan Jones

Sending Hymn: UMH # 593 Here I Am Lord

Departing Thoughts:

Holy One,

For all the ways you speak to us – in the rushing wind, the dancing flames, in the words of friends and loved ones, and in all that transcends language, we give you thanks.

P: Give us eyes to see your story in our lives each day. Give us ears to listen to your words, words of hope, reminding us of your promise to dwell with us always, even in the shadows of darkness. Give us courage to speak your love, everywhere we go, to everyone we meet.

Just as it reads in Genesis we “want to hear the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.”

Lord, we stand before you, sometimes awe-struck, sometimes mystified. We hear a voice calling our names. Sometimes we are scared. Sometimes we stand in the way, allowing our voice to ring out over yours. Lord, you call, but we don't always believe our ears. Sometimes we believe we know better. Sometimes we think you can't possibly be calling us, or her, or him. Forgive us, Lord, our unpracticed listening, our closed ears. Help us to hear. Today we ask that our fears be quelled, our minds be sharpened, our ears ready to listen, and our hearts receptive to the One that beckons our name.

Keep asking...seeking...knocking, for moments of receiving, finding and opening will come.