



Asbury United Methodist Church  
January 8, 2023 9:30 A.M.  
143 Ann Mary Brown Drive  
Warwick, RI 02888  
(401) 467-5122

Pastor  
Rev. Yohan Go

PRELUDE: HANNAH NOH

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8 August Carl Whitham

10 Lisa Arnold  
Judy Rogers

14 Christine Mills

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: The voice of God prods our hearing

**P: The activity of God stretches our seeing.**

L: Together they invite us down into the waters of life where the Spirit flows.

**P: From there we may rise to go, to dare to walk, and to serve beyond where we have been before. AMEN**

(Martha Brunell, *The Abingdon Women's Preaching Annual Series 2, year A* (Abingdon Press, 2001))

Opening hymn and response: UMH page 402

**(Sing)** Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

LEADER: You alone can change us, Lord. Wash us in the waters of baptism that we may become new. Wash away everything that stands between us and your holiness.

in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Ephesians 2: 19-22

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His spirit.

**Message:** Jan Jones

### **Closing prayer**

Dear God, as we leave this place of worship today, help us to remain faithful to you in everything that we do. Lord, we pray that everything that we do in this place may glorify your name. Let worship be a lifestyle to every one that is gathered here and not just something we do when we come to this place. May we become useful vessels that bring glory to your name. Help us to go into the world sharing your promise.

**\*Sending hymn: FWS #2165 Cry of My Heart**

### **Benediction:**

Greet yourself as God's beloved. Greet one another as God's beloved. Greet all you encounter as God's beloved. In that greeting, we will be and we will become the Body of Christ. In that greeting, we will behold the image of God, ever among us and around. **AMEN**

**(sing)** In my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change us, Lord. Wash away everything that separates me from the people I should love. Wash away everything that stands between me and your holiness.

**(sing)** Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian, in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change us, Lord. Wash us with your cleansing power that we may be children of God. You alone can change us, Lord.

**(sing verse 4)**

(Kwasi I. Kena, The Africana Worship Book, Year A, Valerie Bridgeman Davis and Safiyah Fosua, eds. (Discipleship Resources, 2006)

### **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**

**Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty UMH #64 vs. 1, 3,4**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE:** From the beginning Christians have exercised this practice of passing the peace by shaking hands and saying, "peace be with you". It embodies our identity as peacemakers (Matt. 5:9; 2 Cor. 5:20) and trains our hearts, hands and tongues in the ways of peace. "Peace be with you" is a greeting Jesus himself used with his disciples. The apostle Paul opened each

of his letters with the words, "Grace and peace be with you." (Rom. 1:7, 1 Cor. 1:3; 2 Cor. 1:2) When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity. Likewise, when we regularly pass the peace, we practice God's call to make every effort to maintain the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:3) However you are comfortable, turn to your neighbor, looking each other in the eye. Shake hands if you desire, and speak the words, "The peace of the Lord be with you" and receive the words in turn, "and also with you."

**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, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we 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:** As we present our tithes and offering in worship and witness, may we remember that each day God finds the way that we need to be loved and challenged. We respond to this marvelous call through our giving. Let us gather our gifts and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

Interlude: Hannah Noh

**\*Doxology:** UMH #95

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

L: God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. We are the receivers of your love, the receivers of your grace, receivers of Jesus.

**P: All we are and all we have is yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love; use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to the world. AMEN.**

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** UMH 519 Lift every Voice and Sing. verses 1 & 3

### Scripture Readings

Acts 2: 42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Everyday they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether