



# BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11:00 a.m.

May 12, 2019

*Welcome! Please see the pew card "Welcome to Worship" for more information on our services.*

## CENTERING WORDS

"How should we like it were stars to burn  
With a passion for us we could not return?  
If equal affection cannot be,  
Let the more loving one be me."

(W H Auden)

PRELUDE: "For the Beauty of the Earth" (Conrad Kocher)

Tim Barnes, organist

## INTROIT

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

All who are weary or heavy-laden, come and dwell in the presence of God.

**We come with our grief, our anger, our fear, and our doubt trusting all are welcome here.**

All who hunger for justice, the risen Christ calls, "come and follow!"

**We come to hear and proclaim the Good News that sets us free.**

All who believe that Love is yet alive, come and feel the Spirit stirring.

**We come, open to the miraculous and unexpected.**

God has gathered us in that we might be renewed together. Let us worship with thanks and praise!

\*OPENING HYMN: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" ..... # 519

### \*OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious One, what a gift, to know you through community. Even in this world aching with violence and destruction, still, we are blessed to have each other. May we not take for granted the ordinary power of being together, of knowing and being known. Fill our hearts with tenderness towards one another and lead us more deeply into the heart of love together. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

*Bold type indicates congregational response.*

## WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

*(Please check in on Facebook and/or on Twitter @ChicagoBUMC, wifi password is 7733482679, and pass the friendship pads to register your attendance and any updated contact information.)*

Welcome to worship, God's beloved! **YES, I Am Welcome! Bienvenidas y bienvenidos!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple, a woman named Tabitha—"Dorcas," in Greek—who never tired of doing kind things or giving to charity. About this time she grew ill and died. They washed her body and laid her out in an upstairs room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples sent two couriers to Peter with the urgent request, "Please come over to us without delay." Peter set out with them as they asked. Upon his arrival, they took him upstairs to the room. All the townswomen who had been widowed stood beside him weeping, and showed him the various garments Dorcas had made when she was still with them. Peter first made everyone go outside, then knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, stand up." She opened her eyes, then looked at Peter and sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her to her feet. The next thing he did was to call in those who were believers—including the widows—to show them that she was alive. This became known all over Joppa and, because of it, many came to believe in Jesus Christ. Peter remained awhile in Joppa, staying with Simon, a leather tanner.

May God bless the speaking and hearing of the Word. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful, God, **hear our prayer!**

Loving God, **we give you thanks!**

### THE PRAYER OF JESUS *[You are invited to say this prayer in the language of your heart.]*

**Our God in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kindom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM

Broadway Choir

### SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of God spoke to Philip and said, "Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes to Gaza, the desert road." So Philip began his journey. It happened that an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official in charge of the entire treasury of Candace, the ruler of Ethiopia, had come to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was returning home. He was sitting in his carriage and reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and meet that carriage." When Philip ran up, he heard the eunuch reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" "How can I," the eunuch replied, "unless someone explains it to me?" With that, he invited Philip to get in the carriage

with him. This was the passage of scripture being read: “You are like a sheep being led to slaughter, you are like a lamb that is mute in front of its shearers: like them, you never open your mouth. You have been humiliated and have no one to defend you. Who will ever talk about your descendants, since your life on earth has been cut short?” The eunuch said to Phillip, “Tell me, if you will, about whom the prophet is talking—himself or someone else?” So Philip proceeded to explain the Good News about Jesus to him. Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, there is some water right there. Is there anything to keep me from being baptized?” He ordered the carriage to stop; then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch didn’t see him anymore, and went on his way rejoicing. Philip found himself at Ashdod next, and he went about proclaiming the Good News in all the towns, until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

MESSAGE: “We Celebrate Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity”

Rev. Alka Lyall

MISSION MINUTE SUNDAY: Gaza Mental Health Foundation and Cure Violence

[see announcements]

THE INVITATION TO OFFERING

*[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision, and ministry by tithing. Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week.]*

Christ is risen and we are the body of Christ. We are the hands and feet of Love. God has given us the power to bring forth new life in places meant only for death. In faith that God can do a new thing through us, let us share what we have.

\*DOXOLOGY..... [tune # 95]

*[You are invited to sing in one of these languages or in the language of your heart.]*

[Español:] **A Dios el Padre Celestial Al hijo nuestro Redentor  
Y al eterno Consolador Unidos todos alabad. Amen.**

[English:] **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Holy One, we give you thanks. You are a companion to the outcast, the marginalized, the isolated. Your love for the cast-aside is extravagant and your faithfulness to the oppressed is never-ceasing. May that same spirit rise in us, O God. And may these gifts be blessed to the service of community, compassion, and care, wherever it is needed most. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: “We Humans Build to Frame a Life” ..... see insert

BENEDICTION

Friends, it is Love that called us here and Love that sends us.

**May we go in the assurance that this same Love is working in and around us in miraculous and ordinary ways, binding up broken hearts, rising up against injustice and oppression,**

And stirring up new life in places unimaginable. Go in peace.

POSTLUDE: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (Beethoven)

Tim Barnes, organist



*Liturgy adapted from enfleshed.com. Scripture from The Inclusive Bible. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2009.*

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**CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE**

We are black, brown, red, yellow, white, and all the colors of God's created rainbow. We are lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and straight. We are transgender, intersex, female, male, gender fluid. We are queer. We are questioning. We are every age. We are every ability. We are every economic & theological location. We are YOU.

**Welcome to God's Beloved Community at Broadway.**

**BROADWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT:** "God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons – celebrating the human family's God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God's nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ."

Broadway United Methodist Church

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