



# BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11:00 a.m.

August 18, 2019

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

## CENTERING WORDS

"Washing one's hands of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless means to side with the powerful, not to be neutral." ~ Paulo Freire

## PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Like a blazing fire, may the Holy One bring renewal.

**May we partner with everything that kindles justice.**

Let the Spirit turn embers of love into a holy blaze.

**May courage burn in the hearts of the faithful.**

Even through terrains of grief, and lands of despair, God calls us to us: **Do not be afraid.**

What must die will come alive again, bearing fruits of peace and harvests that nourish.

**May the Spirit of this Holy Baptism, Come.**

### \*OPENING HYMN: "Woke Up This Morning" ..... see lyrics below

**Woke up this morning with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Woke up this morning with my mind, stayed on God.**

**Woke up this morning with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.**

**Walking and talking with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Walking and talking with my mind, stayed on God.**

**Walking and talking with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.**

**Singing and praying with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Singing and praying with my mind, stayed on God.**

**Singing and praying with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.**

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

*Bold type indicates congregational response.*

\*OPENING PRAYER

**Holy One, through Christ, you have taught us to chase after love. May we not be discouraged by the obstacles we face like walls that barricade, unjust laws that harm, and unspoken barriers that threaten. Make us steadfast, O God, in our pursuit of all that is good — for our friends and neighbors, strangers and enemies. Amen.**

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: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith, the people passed through the Sea of Reeds as though on dry land. When the Egyptians tried the same, they drowned. By faith, the walls of Jericho fell after being encircled for seven days. By faith, Rahab the prostitute didn't perish with those who were disobedient, after she welcomed the spies in peace. What more can I say? There is no time for me to give an account of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, or David, Samuel and the prophets. These were those who through faith conquered nations, did what was just and earned the promises. They shut the jaws of lions, put out raging fires and emerged unscathed from battle. They were weak people who were given strength, became brave in battle and put foreign invaders to flight. Some came back from the dead to their spouses by resurrection. Others submitted to torture, refusing release so that they could rise again to a better life. Still others endured mockery, scourgings—even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, sawed in half, even beheaded. They were homeless, dressed in the skins of sheep and goats; they were penniless and given nothing but ill treatment—the world wasn't worthy of them!—and they wandered in deserts and slept on mountains and in caves and ravines. These are all heroes of our faith, but none of them received what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, so that they would not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside everything that impedes us and the sin that so easily entangles us. Let us run with perseverance the race laid out for us. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection. For the sake of the joy to come, Jesus endured the cross, heedless of its shame, and now sits at the right of God's throne.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC: "We've Come This Far By Faith" (by A. Goodson)

Broadway Pick-Up Choir

\*SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 12:49-56

[Jesus said:] "I've come to light a fire on the earth. How I wish the blaze were ignited already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think I'm here to bring peace on earth? I tell you, the opposite is true: I've come to bring division. From now on

a household of five will be divided—three against two and two against three, father against son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” Jesus said again to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say that rain is coming—and so it does. When the wind blows from the south, you say it’s going to be hot—and so it is. You hypocrites! If you can interpret the portents of earth and sky, why can’t you interpret the present time?

Here ends the reading of the Gospel. This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

MESSAGE

Rev. Alka Lyall

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.]*

The Holy One never leaves us to figure out these lives of ours alone. We need each other. And we depend on the guidance of the Spirit to navigate the inevitable complexities and struggles of this shared life together. In gratitude for a God who meets us in the midst, let us bring our gifts and offerings of thanks.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG ..... see lyrics below

**You can't beat God giving, no matter how you try.  
And just as sure as you are living, and the Lord is in heaven on high,  
The more you give the more God gives to you.  
So just keep on giving because it's really true  
that you can't beat God giving, no matter how you try.**

\*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

**Christ, who births in us new life, we give you thanks. By your love, we have been transformed! We have tasted anew the possibilities of life and received your grace that restores. Bless our offerings of gratitude and make us brave in our discipleship, trusting in the Way only you can lead us. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth” ..... see insert

\* B E N E D I C T I O N

The Spirit of the Living God has gathered among us in this place and makes promises to those who seek to follow Christ.

**Whatever strife we encounter because of love, whatever consequences flow from acts of solidarity, we have nothing to fear. The Sacred One will always be close.**

May peace and courage walk with us until we gather once again. **Amen.**

P O S T L U D E



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

**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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