



# BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11:00 a.m.

August 25, 2019

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

PRELUDE: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (Ludwig van Beethoven)

Tim Barnes, organist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathered together, we welcome the Holy One.

**May the Presence of God draw near.**

Bringing our sorrows, our worries, our gratitude for every simple pleasure, we come bearing the complexities and contradictions of human life.

**Come close, O God.**

Trusting in the Spirit to receive us as we are, we come without shame, we come to release what does not serve love, we come with hearts open to one another.

**Thanks be to God whose presence is with us!**

\*OPENING HYMN: "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" ..... # 351

## \*OPENING PRAYER

**God of Restoration, when pain and injustice—ours or others—cries out for attention, remind us of the Sacred capacities we hold within. Through Christ, you revealed the power of your presence with us. May we not be content with only looking into the distance for answered prayers. Make us ever attuned to what we already have within us and around us, asking what you would have us do with the gifts we bear today. 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

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

*Bold type indicates congregational response.*

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm, or trumpeting thunder, or the great voice speaking such that those hearing it begged that no more be said to them. They couldn't bear to hear the command, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." Indeed, so fearful was the spectacle that even Moses said, "I am terrified and trembling." What you have drawn near to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, where myriad angels have gathered for the festival with the whole church—in which everyone is a "firstborn" and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God, the supreme Judge, and have been placed with the spirits of the holy ones who have been made perfect. You have come to Jesus—the mediator who brings a new Covenant—and to the sprinkled blood which pleads even more insistently than that of Abel. Make sure that you never refuse to listen to the One who speaks. If the people who refused to listen to the warning while on earth didn't escape, how much less will we escape if we refuse to listen to the voice of warning that comes from heaven? God's voice shook the earth then, but now God promises, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." That promise means that the things being shaken are created things so that only those things that cannot be shaken will remain. Therefore, since we have inherited an unshakeable kingdom, let us thankfully worship God in a way that is acceptable—in reverence and in awe. For our God is a consuming fire.

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 kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Amazing Grace" (traditional hymn)

Dude, soloist

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 71:1-6

In you, YHWH, I take shelter—let me never be disappointed. In your justice, rescue me, deliver me, turn your ear to me and save me! Be mine, O mountain of strength! Send your decree—deliver me, for you are my rock, my fortress! O God, rescue me from the hands of the violent, from the clutches of the thief and outlaw! For you alone are my hope, YHWH my sovereign—I have trusted you since my youth. I have relied on you from the womb; you sustained me from my mother's breast; to you I give constant praise.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

MESSAGE

Felipe Foucher

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.]*

Each week, we collect our gifts and offerings together as a response to the presence of God in our lives. We do not need to give in order to appease God. No offering is necessary in order to know God's embrace. To gather together what we have is an invitation to live what we believe, to practice what we proclaim, and to take a risk on one another in faith that with each other, we have enough.

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

**Holy One, as we offer these gifts, we remember what you have asked of us. Not strict adherence of rules or unquestioned obedience to tradition, but to act justly, to cherish kindness, and to be humble companions of Love. By your Spirit, may we be faithful to you in the practice of our religion, not losing sight of the purpose of our worship or the foundation of our faith. In all aspects of our lives, may Love be at the center. Amen.**

\* CLOSING HYMN: "To God Be the Glory" ..... # 98

\* BENEDICTION

Grounded in the Spirit's steady companionship, let us go from here committed to worshipping God through all facets of our lives:

**Serving one another. Turning from power's seduction. Embracing creative paths of healing and restoration.**

In faithfulness to Christ who leads us, may we go in peace. **AMEN.**

POSTLUDE: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" (Charles H. Webb)

Tim Barnes, organist

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*Liturgy adapted from enflashed.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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