LENT 2020 AT BROADWAY CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 22, 2020 | 11:00 AM

When God Uses Our RESPONSIBILITIES ...



Bold type indicates congregational response.

CENTERING WORDS

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, there is a feast set before us.

An abundance of ordinary provisions is always in reach.

Do we not have a fountain of compassion from which to draw?

With God as our source, we are never in lack.

Are we not rich in courage? Must we carefully ration out the amount of love we give and receive?

When we dwell together in God's presence, there is more than enough.

Who is able to keep us from Wisdom? Who has the power to set limits upon our joy?

Not even our enemies can hinder access to God.

Let us rejoice! For we will not be left without.

Thanks be to God, our Holy Provider.

OPENING PRAYER

Holy Comforter, Divine Guide, even as Love leads us towards the places we fear the most, we hope to trust in you. When the shadow of the cross looms, keep us from retreating into privilege or isolation. Make us brave in our care for each other, leaving no one to go alone. Amen.

WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

(Please check in on Facebook and/or on Twitter @ChicagoBUMC.)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers of the People

Merciful God, hear our prayer! Loving God, we give you thanks!

SUNG RESPONSE: "Hear Our Prayer, O God"

led by Robert Galbreath, Jr.

Hear our prayer, O God; hear our prayer, O God; Incline Thine ear to us and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 1:26-31 (CEB)

Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth." God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground — to everything that breathes — I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened. God saw everything God had made: it was supremely good. There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

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

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 2:42-47 (CEB)

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. God added daily to the community those who were being saved.

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

MESSAGE: "When God Uses Our RESPONSIBILITIES"

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.]

Beloveds, the rest we crave is found in turning towards each other. The heavy burdens of life are made light when they are shared. Practicing intentional community is a Sacred form of care and a source of Divine grace. With generosity, let us bring our offerings together.



God is inviting you to specific ministry of sharing your resources. Please be as generous as you can in your giving. To give online, visit us at BroadwayChurchChicago.com/ give or scan the QR code. Thank you for your commitment to God's purposes through our faith community!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, in your presence, we are nourished in abundance. You make our weary hearts glad. You awaken us to the ordinary gifts that surround us. May fears of scarcity never let us forget all that we have. Keep us from greed. Keep us from selfishness. Let generosity and hospitality always pour forth from this place. Amen. Benediction

BENEDICTION

Goodness and mercy go with us from here.

Relentlessly, they pursue us.

Even in the midst of valleys that make us tremble, even when evil draws near,

still the gifts of God will not yield.

Sacred provisions surround us.

Let us go in the confidence of God's care for us as we follow Christ wherever Love leads.

Liturgy adapted from enfleshed.com and worshipdesignstudio.com. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-725521.

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."

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