



BROADWAY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“Onward & Upward 2020”

11:00 a.m.

January 12, 2020

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

CENTERING WORDS

“We are the river, and the river is us. We have no choice but to stand up.”

~ LaDonna Brave Bull Allard, member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

PRELUDE: “We Meet You, O Christ” (Carl F. Schalk)

Timothy Barnes, organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

How glorious and majestic is our God?

Let all that live in heaven and earth praise God’s holy name!

Can we hear God’s voice? **God is louder than a fireworks display!**

Can we see God’s creative power? **God is stronger than earthquakes and floods.**

Do we know the glory of God revealed in creation?

God’s world is awesome! God blesses all people with God’s Presence.

*OPENING HYMN: “Baptized in Water”

*OPENING PRAYER

Mysterious One, through the ordinary elements of the earth, we are reminded that your grace is woven into our common life. The same waters that revive our bodies and the earth’s, invite, too, the renewal of our souls. May we not take for granted the sources of our life but be good stewards of these gifts that restore. 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!**

* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

Bold type indicates congregational response.

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. John tried to dissuade Jesus, saying, "I should be baptized by you, and yet you come to me!" But Jesus replied, "Leave it this way for now. We must do this to completely fulfill God's justice." So John reluctantly agreed. Immediately after Jesus had been baptized and was coming up out of the water, the sky suddenly opened up and Jesus saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and hovering over him. With that, a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests."

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

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Every Praise" (Hezekiah Walker)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "Song of Hope (Canto de Esperanza)" FS 2186

A RENEWAL OF OUR PLEDGE TO BE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

Following a star.

Following God's love.

Following a call, a nudge, a quest,

for our lives.

Help us, O God, in the decisions we make every day,

in the "pegs" or the values that we decide to hang our life on, that we will reflect your love and fairness in our lives and in our world.

In the presence of the New Year,

and in remembrance of Jesus' baptism and our own, I pledge to follow the teaching of Jesus in my life;

to wrestle with the meanings of the stories in the Bible,

and try to live them out each day in my conversations with my family, the people I meet at work, the stranger ahead of me in the check-out line at the grocery store, and in the quiet conversations I have with myself each day.

I realize that I cannot do this on my own,

that I am dependent on God's love and grace in my life, and it is only by ingesting God's love for me that I am able to love the "other" whom I meet in my day-to-day life.

Help me also to learn **what it means to be a prophet,**

God's voice for right relations, **among all those that I share this world with:**
the birds of the air, the fish of the seas,
the green grass, the animals, and the soil from which all life came,
and all the peoples of the earth, **those close to me at home,**
and those faraway. **Amen.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now"..... # 608

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

"Here is my Servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one, in whom I delight! I have endowed you with my Spirit that you may bring true justice to the nations. You do not cry out or raise your voice, or make yourself heard in the street. So gentle that you do not break a bruised reed, or quench a wavering flame, faithfully you will bring forth true justice. You will neither waver nor be crushed until justice is established on earth, for the islands await your teaching! Thus says YHWH, who created the heavens and spread them out, who gave shape to the earth and what it produces, who gave life to its peoples and spirit to its inhabitants: I, YHWH, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand, and I watch over you. I have appointed you to be a covenant people, a light to the nations: to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who sit in darkness from the dungeon. I am YHWH! This is my Name! I will not yield my glory to another god or my praise to idols! See how former predictions have come true. And now I declare new things! Before they spring forth, I tell them to you."

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

MESSAGE: "Shine Bright"

Rev. Rachel Birkahn-Rommelfanger

MISSION MINUTE: NIJFON and The Night Ministry

[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.]

Friends, through baptism we recognize ourselves and one another as family in Christ. With us, the earth and the soil and the water and the creatures — they are our family too. In gratitude for this entangled life and for the Creator who ushers us towards right-relationship with one another, let us bring our gifts together.

OFFERTORY HYMN: "Give Thanks"..... FS 2036 (inclusive language below)

Give thanks, with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks, because God gave us, Jesus Christ, the Son. (2x)

and now, let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say, "I am rich because of what our God has done, for us." (2x) Give thanks!

* 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, with thanks for your love that stretches beyond our comprehension, we bring our gifts. What a wonder, your invitation to be co-creators of life. May we be bold enough to believe it's true: that you have called us, that you claim us, and that together, we can do a new thing. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with us, **and around us and in us.**

Let's focus our attention on God. **We are here to worship God.**

Let us give thanks. **Thank you, God.**

We give thanks to you for creating all of us in your image. For loving us even when we don't love you. For always having open arms when your Church does not. So we thank you by saying:

Holy, holy, holy God of wisdom and love, Your glory is all around us. Holy is Jesus, who walked among us. Holy is your Spirit, who guides us when we are lost.

...And so, in remembrance of God's actions through Jesus the Christ, we give praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...All honor and glory is yours, Creator God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

[The United Methodist Church practices "open communion" which means that any and all who respond to the invitation are welcome to share in the Sacrament. You are invited to exit from one end of your pew and return by the other end of the pew at the direction of the ushers. You may bring your food offering to the Chancel as you come to receive the elements of Communion. We use unfermented grape juice for the Sacrament.]*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**As part of our celebration of Holy Communion, we will receive an offering of nonperishable food and other requested items. The local area food pantries and shelters then distribute items. Broadway has been asked to consider particularly gifts of Spam or canned meats; plastic and paper grocery bags; whole grain items such as whole wheat pasta, quinoa & other whole grains, brown rice; and pet food. "As we are fed, so we are called to feed."*

*CLOSING HYMN: "Till All the Jails Are Empty"

*BENEDICTION

Remember from where we come:

From earth formed by the hands of the Divine. From waters through which new life is always being birthed. From love that surges throughout creation, always reaching towards justice, generation after generation.

May we remember and be renewed in care for one another and all our neighbors. Go in peace, beloved people of God. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE: "There's a Spirit in the Air" (harm. by Richard Redhead)

Timothy Barnes, organ

[Please remain seated for the postlude, or if needed, leave quietly.]

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*Liturgy adapted from enfleshed.com and worshipdesignstudio.com. A Renewal of Our Pledge to Be Followers of Jesus by Allan Warren, then at St. George U.C., St. George, Ont. First published in Gathering Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2005–2006. Scripture from The Inclusive Bible. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2009. The Great Thanksgiving Liturgy written by Mack Owings. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-725521.*

Broadway welcomes back Rev. Rachel Birkhahn-Rommelfanger today! Rev. Rachel is a Chicago native, lifelong United Methodist, and second generation clergy (following their mother). They identify as a queer, social justice seeking pastor, and have had the privilege of serving on the board of directors for the National Reconciling Ministries Network, the UMC's General Commission on Religion and Race, and as a General Conference Delegate (2012). Rachel has participated in a variety of ministry settings from lobbying on Capital Hill, to college campus to churches that were either multicultural, reconciling, large or small in Chicago, DC and Tennessee. They are currently working for the United Methodist Church as the Assistant Connectional Ministries Officer of the Connectional Table and lives with their community organizing spouse, Will, on the Southside.



## 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.**



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](https://broadwaychurchchicago.com/give) or scan the QR code at left. Thank you for your commitment to God's purposes through our faith community!

**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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**[www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com](http://www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com)**

Rev. Alka Lyall, Pastor (text at 815-474-6721)

Rev. M Barclay, Deacon

Mack Owings, Student Pastor

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