

Bold type in purple indicates congregational response. (Blue text indicates online links.)

GATHERING OF COMMUNITY

CENTERING WORDS

"We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes."

~ "Ella's Song" by Sweet Honey in the Rock

CENTERING MUSIC

OPENING PRAYER

Spirit of Life, you created us in your image. You made us to be healers, to be protectors, and to be in deep and abiding relationship with one another and all the earth. Help us to trust in the power of these Sacred gifts within us. Enable our resistance to all that threatens life and make us co-creators of justice, joy, and care. 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

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 28:16-20 (CEB)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Creator and of Christ and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER FOR COURAGE TO DO JUSTICE

Great Spirit, Open our eyes that we may see the needs of others;

Open our ears that we may hear their cries;

Open our hearts so that they need not be without succor;

Let us not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.

Show us where fear and prejudice blind us. Spirit of the Living God, open our eyes.

OPEN OUR EYES!

~ Alan Paton, South Africa; paraphrased by Cynthia Wilson

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.

HYMN: "God You Give the Great Commission"

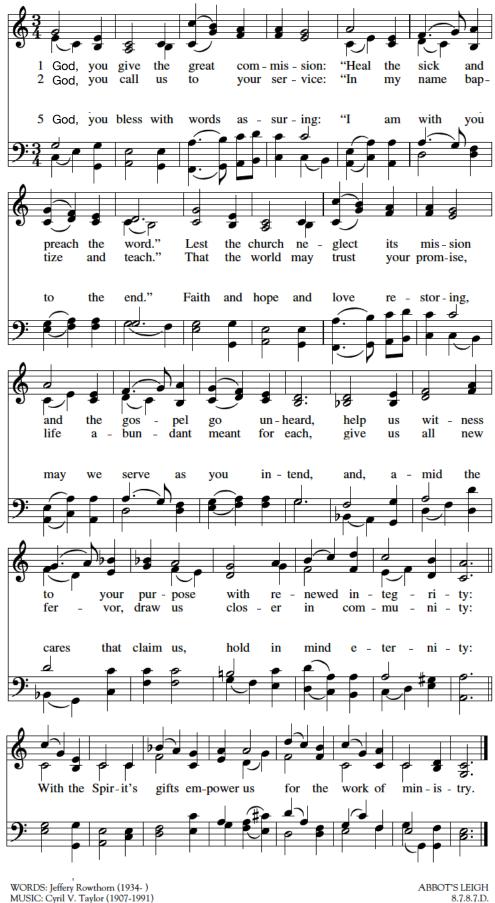
584 vs. 1, 2 & 5

[lyrics below; music on following page]

1. God, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity: With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

2. God, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach." That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

5. God, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end." Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend, and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.



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SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 1:1-2:4a (Inclusive Bible)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep—yet the Spirit of God was brooding over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Light: Be!" and light was. God saw that light was good, and God separated light from darkness. God called the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." Evening came, and morning followed—the first day. Then God said, "Now, make an expanse between the waters! Separate water from water! So it was: God made the expanse and separated the water above the expanse from the water below it. God called the expanse "Sky." Evening came, and morning followed—the second day. Then God said, "Waters under the sky: be gathered into one place! Dry ground: appear!" So it was. God called the dry ground "Earth" and the gathering of the waters "Sea." And God saw that this was good. Then God said, "Earth: produce vegetation—plants that scatter their own seeds, and every kind of fruit tree that bears fruit with its own seed in it!" So it was: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed, and every kind of fruit tree with its seed in it. And God saw that this was good. Evening came, and morning followed—the third day. Then God said, "Now, let there be lights in the expanse of the sky! Separate day from night! Let them mark the signs and seasons, days and years, and serve as luminaries in the sky, shedding light on the earth." So it was: God made the two great lights, the greater one to illumine the day, and a lesser to illumine the night. Then God made the stars as well, placing them in the expanse of the sky, to shed light on the earth, to govern both day and night, and separate light from darkness. And God saw that this was good. Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day. God then said, "Waters: swarm with an abundance of living beings! Birds: fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky!" And so it was: God created great sea monsters and all sorts of swimming creatures with which the waters are filled, and all kinds of birds. God saw that this was good and blessed them, saying, "Bear fruit, increase your numbers, and fill the waters of the seas! Birds, abound on the earth!" Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day. Then God said, "Earth: bring forth all kinds of living soul—cattle, things that crawl, and wild animals of all kinds!" So it was: God made all kinds of wild animals, and cattle, and everything that crawls on the ground, and God saw that this was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, to be like us. Let them be stewards of the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, the cattle, the wild animals, and everything that crawls on the ground." Humankind was created as God's reflection: in the divine image God created them: female and male, God made them. God blessed them and said, "Bear fruit, increase your numbers, and fill the earth—and be responsible for it! Watch over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things on the earth!" God then told them, "Look! I give you every seedbearing plant on the face of the earth, and every tree whose fruit carries its seed inside itself: they will be your food; and to all the animals of the earth and the birds of the air and things that crawl on the ground—everything that has a living soul in it—I give all the green plants for food." So it was. God looked at all of this creation, and proclaimed that this was good—very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed. On the seventh day, God rested. God blessed the seventh day and called it sacred, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

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

Message

Mack Owings

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, we remember that even in times of difficulty, we are held in the care of the earth. In gratitude for the trees that help us breathe, the water that replenishes, the beauty that revives, and all the gifts of this enduring creation, let us bring our offerings to God.



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!

WAYS TO GIVE: **Mail a check** (Broadway Church, 3338 N. Broadway St., Chicago, IL 60657), drop off a check in our mailbox, set up recurring giving or make a one-time contribution through your bank account or credit card through **Vanco here** or by scanning the QR code above, Zelle (send to bumclakeview@gmail.com), or text the amount you wish to donate to 833-990-2149 (You'll receive a registration link the first time. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving Creator, you mourn with us over all that is being destroyed. Each life is precious in your sight. Each creature and creation, a Sacred testament to you. As we offer our thanks for what sustains us, we bring, too, our grief, our tears, and our distress. As a practice of love, we pray, we weep, and we labor for change. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Beloveds, created good...

Beloveds, created in the image of God...

Beloveds, created to cultivate life and tend it with care and appreciation...

Go, assured that a holy potential for returning to abundance is always near.

Even when it seems the farthest away, even when grief is the pathway,

God accompanies us together, in the work of love.

With peace, the Spirit sends us. Amen.

Postlude

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



COVID-19 has placed many of our church members and our Lakeview neighbors in great and unexpected need. Some have been furloughed by their employers; many have lost their jobs; others are facing health challenges. Broadway Church wants to provide financial help to our neighbors in need. We invite you to join us. Our goal is to raise \$5,000, but we hope to surpass it with your generosity and concern! After we receive donations, we will begin taking requests for financial help and disperse up to \$250 per family. Help us make a difference. Thank you! Click here to go to our GoFundMe page.

Donations are currently at \$2,978 for our COVID-19 Assistance Fund. Thank you!! We are now able to begin taking requests. Fill out our request form here: https://tinyurl.com/yc9xtnk3

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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