

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

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February 25, 2024

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 25, 2024 – 10:00am
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR B

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

What Wondrous Love Is This
from William Walker's Southern Harmony (1835)
arr. by Anna Laura Page

INTROIT:

He is Exalted

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

"Let go and let God." This is not just a phrase; it's a lifestyle. "Die to the old and embrace the new." This is not just a phrase, but a promise of possibilities in God that we often cannot see.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

Ancient of days, bring your future hope into our world. Bring your love into our lives. Bring your presence into our midst. Open our hearts and minds to your message, that we may respond with hope and trust. With our ancestors of old, may we walk in the lineage of faithful discipleship. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

In promise and covenant, God calls.

In hope and trust, we respond.

In love and faithfulness, God saves.

In gratitude and joy, we come.

Let us worship and praise God's holy name.

*OPENING HYMN:

Living for Jesus

TFWS 2149 (vss 1,2,4)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

Faithful One, we want to believe. Help our unbelief. We yearn to follow faithfully. Forgive our hesitant, stumbling steps. Hold us by the hand, guide us with your love, and cover us with your mercy and grace. Help us answer your call, trust your promises, and walk in your ways all the days of our lives. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ's righteousness has become our righteousness. God's merciful love is enough to save us. All is forgiven. All is restored. God's beloved are made righteous in Christ's grace of mercy and love.

HYMN OF WORSHIP

Be Still My Soul

UMH 534

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father, who art 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

For The Beauty Of The Earth
by Conrad Kocher
arr. by Mark Ellsworth

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

God of ancient days and futures not yet seen, bring your eternal wisdom to our time of offering. Bring your ancient faith and faithful love to the gifts we now bring. Transform the past with the promise of your future, that together our gifts may merge with your Spirit to bring transformation and hope to your world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")

*GOSPEL LESSON:

MARK 8:31-38

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to Mark the 8th chapter, beginning with the 31st verse...

31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. **32** He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. **33** But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." **34** Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **35** For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. **36** What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? **37** Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? **38** If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ

SERMON:

"Holy Lent: The Practice of Faith"
Rev Dr Norma Lee Kerns Barnhart

***CLOSING HYMN:**

Take Up Thy Cross

UMH 415 (vss 1,3,4)

***BENEDICTION:**

Though the former things are past and the future is unknown,

we go as God's beloved children.

God's love and our place in God's realm is secure,

both now and forevermore.

GOING FORTH:

Evermore
by Alan Menken
arr. by Dan Coates

Erica Kessler

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

February 25, 2024

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

For information about the **Spanish Bible Study** day and time call Pastor Audrey at (630) 670-3580

Good Samaritan Fund. Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated. If you are able, please consider donating to our Good Samaritan Fund this Christmas.

Saturday Kids Club. Every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:45 pm.

The Centennial United Methodist Church Hispanic Ministry will be meeting in homes instead of having the Sunday services. If you know of anyone that is interested in having a Pastor visit, a service or bible study in their home in the Spanish language please let Pastor Audrey know.

Please join us after our Sunday worship service for **Coffee time**. If you would like to volunteer to help setup for coffee time or donate cookies you can sign up at the office reception desk.

Lent and Holy Week schedule:

- **Ash Wednesday** February 14, 2024. Service begins at 12:15pm. In person only.
- **Palm Sunday** March 24, 2024. Service begins at 10:00am. In person and on Facebook.
- **Good Friday** March 29, 2024. Service begins at 12:15pm. In person and on Facebook.
- **Easter Sunday** March 31, 2024. Service begins at 10:00am. In person and on Facebook.
- **Lenten Soup lunch**, *Sunday Feb 18th and Sunday Mar 10th*. Lunch will begin right after service.

Annual Conference 2024 Details: Theme: "I freely and heartily Yield", Sunday, June 16 - Tuesday, June 18, Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center, 1551 N Thoreau Dr, Schaumburg, Ill.

Special observances and sessions:

- Clergy session: June 5 (location to be announced)
- Laity session: Sunday early afternoon, June 16
- Ordination and commissioning service: Sunday evening, June 16
- Retirement service: Monday morning, June 17
- Memorial service: Tuesday morning, June 18

Registration Begins on April 3

- April 3 - April 29: Early bird registration \$115/person
- April 30 - May 20: \$130/person
- Note: There will be NO on-site registration

Please note that due to so many cases rising of RSV and other illnesses we ask that you use a mask at your discretion while we are gathered in the church building. If you don't have a mask we have one for you at the church entrance.

Prairie North United Methodist Men, Spring Communion Service. Saturday, March 9, 2024. Gathering & Breakfast 8:15 am, Worship & Communion 9:30 am. Pecatonica UMC (528 Washington St, Pecatonica IL 61063). Cost: \$10 - pastors free. RSVP dvohilton@yahoo.com or text 815-218-0577

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: *Art Huenkemeier.*

At Home: *Carol Risenhoover, Carol Waxler, Pat Nelson, Aida DeJesus.*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Jeff Palmer, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera.*

BIRTHDAYS

2/25 Lindsey Jacobson Kinsey

3/2 Jesus Cruz

3/2 Steven Gomez

3/2 Marlene Wibom

Joys and Concerns

Dougal and Cindy's daughter Malinda, has skin cancer, it is not melanoma, but it can be aggressive. She will be having the skin removed. Dougal didn't attend church today because he is not feeling well. Please keep Dougal, Cindy, Malinda and her family in your prayers.

Amanda Gustafson (Bev Dahlgren's granddaughter) participated in a shot put tournament this past weekend at Olivet College. She placed 3rd. Congratulations to her. We are very proud of her.

Sharon Sodergren has been fighting a terrible cough virus, but is feeling better.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

Pastor.audrey@ymail.com



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