

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

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March 17, 2024

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 17, 2024 – 10:00am
FIFTH 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:

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

God has written the law of love on your heart. Gaze deeply and find God within.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

Our souls are troubled, Holy One, until they find their rest in you. When we live in fear of our mortality, help us face the future unafraid. Write the truth of Christ's words on our hearts: "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit." In our living and in our dying, draw us together with all your people. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Are you feeling tired and worn out?

Call on the name of the Lord.

Are mistakes from the past weighing you down?

Come to the fount of living water.

Are you the person you wish to be?

Seek God's help and it shall be granted.

Are you looking for a better path?

Ask Christ to show you the way.

Come! Let us worship.

*OPENING HYMN:

Living for Jesus

TFWS 2149 (vss 1,2,4)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

Engraver of the human heart, we long for your law of love to burst forth with every beat of our hearts. Work within us this day, that the majesty of your love may shine through us in everything we say and do. Put a new and right spirit within us, O Lord, that we may leave our failings behind and embrace the glory of our salvation, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The One who engraves our hearts is faithful, remembering our sins no more. You are loved and accepted, for it is written within by our gracious God.

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

The One who writes the law of love on our hearts, the One who saves us from the worst parts of ourselves, is here to bless us once more. In giving, we receive; in loving, we find love. Let us show our care for those in need as we offer our tithes and offerings to God.

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

Nobody Knows The Trouble I've Seen
an African-American Spiritual
arr. by Thomas Waller

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

With hearts washed clean and with spirits made new, we celebrate the joy of your salvation, O God. May the tithes and offerings we share this day reflect the law of love you have written on our hearts. May these gifts bear the fruit of your Spirit, and may they bless those who need it most. 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:

JOHN 12:20-33

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to John the 12th chapter, beginning with the 20st verse...

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." ²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. ²³ Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. ²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."

²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. ³⁰ Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up[a] from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

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

SERMON:

"Whoever Serves"
Rev. Audrey Rochet

***CLOSING HYMN:**

Make Me a Servant

TFWS 2176 (X2)

***BENEDICTION:**

God's law of love is engraved on our hearts. Trust God's internal compass to guide you. Discern the still small voice that whispers with every heartbeat. Going forth, heed the promise of the heart—the warm beat of the living law of love.

GOING FORTH:

Canon in D
by Johann Pachelbel
arr. by Denes Agay

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

March 17, 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:

- **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.

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.

Rockford Urban Ministries' Good Friday Walk for Justice is on March 29. This will be their 35th Annual Good Friday Walk and Stations of the Cross which begins at 9 a.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 412 N. Church St., Rockford, 61103. Rockford Urban Ministries will lead its annual walk from the parking lot of the church to 14 stations, or stops, along the way, and say a prayer at each stop. The walk is free and open to the public.

Most of the stops concern the city's outreach to the poor or those in jail. Other stops include the Public Safety Building, the Federal Building, and the Rockford Public Library. The final stop, Beattie Park, is only one block from the beginning. The walk lasts approximately 75 minutes and takes place rain or shine.

Constance Lane Elementary School requests help in providing some school supplies for the children. They are in great need of the following: 1. Dry Erase Markers and 2. Headphones. They said that they can be from the dollar store

Thank you to Cindy, the Nurture Committee and everyone who made soup and contributed bread, along with helping during our Lent Soup lunch.

****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

3/17 Carleton Dean

3/18 Aylin Medina

Joys and Concerns

Dave Holland requests prayers for Jason's grandfather, Tom, who is having health issues. He may have a cyst in his kidney

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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