

UMCA LENT WORSHIP
Love Is the Way
Week 3: Doing Our Job
Sunday, March 7, 2021

COUNTDOWN

OPENING SEQUENCE

OPENING VERSE - Deuteronomy 6:4-7 George

Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up.

OPENING PRAYER W/ CANDLES Laura or Zach B.

INTRO: Rachael will record this part.

Each day during Lent, we are invited to pray for one another and hold one another in loving community, even as we remain distant. On Sundays, we will light candles and share these prayers together. Use whatever candles you have available to you. I invite you to pause and light your candles now, to pray together and then continue your silent prayer during the prelude music. At the end of the prelude, extinguish your candles.

Holy God, as we pray for others, help us to love them more. Help us to see ourselves and one another through the lens of your great love. Place within us an overwhelming desire to live in ways that bring our world closer to becoming your beloved community.

This week, we pray especially for:

- People who volunteer
- People who have taught us about God
- People who grow our food
- People who clean up other people's messes
- People who are good at saying "sorry"
- People who are grieving
- People who are generous

We remember these people with love. We remember, God, that your love is for everyone.
Amen.

PRELUDE (with offering info on the screen)

Excerpt from LOVE IS THE WAY Harris

The distance between you and a historic changemaker such as Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama, Madame Curie, or Abe Lincoln is not so great as you think. Your job is to do your job, as theirs was to do theirs. God is God. We are human. The God who the Bible says is love knows all and sees all.

None of us can know where our witness to love might lead - what light we might bring to the world. our job is to do our job, and to let God do God's job. (p.122)

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You must have no other gods before[a] me.

Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. Do not bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents' sins even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation[b] of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. 9 Six days you may work and do all your tasks, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. 11 Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you.

13 Do not kill.

14 Do not commit adultery.

15 Do not steal.

16 Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

17 Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

SECOND READING Rosalie-done

John 2:13-22

It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple those who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves, as well as those involved in exchanging currency sitting there. He made a whip from ropes and chased them all out of the temple, including the cattle and the sheep. He scattered the coins and overturned the tables of those who exchanged currency. He said to the dove sellers, "Get these things out of here! Don't make my Father's house a place of business." His disciples remembered that it is written, Passion for your house consumes me.

Then the Jewish leaders asked him, "By what authority are you doing these things? What miraculous sign will you show us?"

Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple and in three days I'll raise it up."

The Jewish leaders replied, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?" But the temple Jesus was talking about was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had said, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This

Anonymous TUNE: WONDROUS LOVE

What wondrous love is this
O my soul, O my soul
What wondrous love is this
O my soul

What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse
For my soul, for my soul
To bear the dreadful curse
For my soul

What wondrous love is this

O my soul, O my soul
What wondrous love is this
O my soul

What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of life
To lay aside his crown
For my soul, for my soul
To lay aside his crown
For my soul

SERMON

Rev. Max Richter

ANTHEM

Lamb of God

Twila Paris, arr. Lloyd Larson, Mountain Spring Music 1985, 2014

Your only Son, no sin to hide
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
O wash me in his precious blood
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
O wash me in his precious blood
Till I am just a lamb of God

PASTORAL PRAYER - LAURA

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRIEF COMMUNION LITURGY - RACHAEL

SONG - BRIAN SCHROEDER

Beautiful Savior

Hymn Arrangement by Brian Schroeder

Beautiful Savior, King of creation
Son of God and Son of man
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee
light of my soul, my joy, my crown

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands
robed in the flow'rs of blooming spring
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
he makes the woeful heart to sing

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight
bright the sparkling stars on high
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations
son of God and son of man
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
now and forevermore be thine

BENEDICTION - RACHAEL

POSTLUDE