



Centennial United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

Rev. Uziel Hernandez Martinez, Pastor

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lent

A SEASON OF PREPARATION



February 21, 2021

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 21st, 2021 – 10:00am – ZOOM, Facebook & YouTube

First Sunday of Lent: Year B

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Give Me Jesus

African-American Spiritual, arr., by Anna Laura Page

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (in unison):

Creator and Sovereign, our world and our lives are often full of threat. We return to you in this place today to be reminded that you do not abandon us to the hard realities of our lives. You are the one who saves us. You are the one who faithfully teaches us your life-giving ways. You are the one who instills courage within us to stand up from the waters of our baptism and to walk your path. Enter our hearts and lives for your powerful purposes, in the name of our baptized brother Jesus and the soaring Spirit. AMEN

HYMN:

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison):

God of faithful love and powerful purpose, there are times when we are open to your leading – times when we walk the path of Jesus with courage and hope, even when doing so is fearful. At other times, we close ourselves off, hoping that you won't tear open the skies and disrupt our lives completely. Following Jesus can be pretty risky. Your compassion and faithful love claim us forever, as they claimed Jesus when he entered the Jordan and made a bold decision to follow you on a new and uncertain path. Amen

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Yes, God's compassion and love are forever! What God said of Jesus at his baptism, God says to us today: You are my dearly loved children, whom I love deeply. God forgives us and loves us dearly, now and forevermore.

HYMN:

I Need Thee Every Hour

UMH 397 (vss. 1,4,5)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for the people of this gathering. . .

(Any person may offer a brief spoken prayer of intercession or petition.)

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for those who suffer and those in trouble. . .

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for the concerns of this local community. . .

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for the world, its people, and its leaders. . .

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for the church universal – its leaders, its members, and its mission. . .

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

Together, let us pray for the communion of saints. . .

Response: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying, TFWS 2193

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison):

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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

THE GOSPEL LESSON:

MARK 1:9-15

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter, beginning with the 29th verse. . .

9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

12 At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, 13 and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ

HYMN FOR REFLECTION:

Nothing Can Trouble

TFWS 2054

SERMON:

“Blessings”

Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez

RESPONSE TO THE WORD:

(Please have some blank light blue sheet of paper and pen/pencil available to you)

CLOSING HYMN:

Rejoice, the Lord is King

UMH 715 (vss. 1,2,3)

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING:

God continues to tear open the heavens of our world and our lives, calling out with a voice of love:

“You are my beloved children, whom I love deeply.”

God continues to tear open the heavens of our world and our lives, sending us onto new paths and missions.

God changes our hearts and lives, and the Spirit pushes us in new directions.

“Now is the time! Here comes God’s kingdom!”

We are Jesus people. We are kingdom people. Now is the time!

AMEN.

GOING FORTH

CREDITS:

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Pastor: Rev. Uziel Hernández Martínez

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Announcements

February 21st, 2021

ADULT FAITH FORMATION (LENT 2021):

Wednesdays Bible Study:

-with Pastor Judith in English, 1pm. On ZOOM.

-with Pastor Uziel in Spanish, 7pm. On ZOOM.

Sundays Book Study: on "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton. Together with Davis Junction UMC, led by Pastor Keith Kelsey-Powell, 11:30am. On ZOOM.

ROCKFORD URBAN MINISTRIES: Lent 2021 Session on Immigration Rights.

February 23, 7pm. On ZOOM. Respond to Rockfordurbanmin@aol.com if you would like to join.

ROCKFORD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: 2021 Leadership Event on February 20, 2021 – 9am to 11am, on ZOOM.

UNITED METHODIST MEN: Spring Communion Service, March 13, 2021.

THE CHIMES NEWSLETTER: Articles and items for the March-April Chimes are due today! Please submit them to Lori as soon as possible. Thank you!

2021 PLEDGE CARDS: If you haven't sent your 2021 pledge cards please do so as soon as you can. We need your support as we continue our mission as a church. If you need additional ones, let Pastor Uziel know.

NEW BABY ANNOUNCEMENT: The Guerrero-Cruz Family are expecting a new baby. Join me as we congratulate them on this beautiful moment in their lives. Please send any gifts and/or cards to 2919 Pleasant View Ave, Rockford, IL 61108.

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: Mae Foster, Henrietta Day, Art Huenkemeier.

At Home: Micaela Serrano, Aida Bejesus, Cleo English, Carol Waxler, Lee Magnuson, Aylin, Fredy & Eugenio Mejia.

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: Nancy O'Leary, Keith Sodergren, Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Jonathan Garcia, Maynard Wibom, Rev. Bettye Mixon, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Jerald Grady, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Silvia Duran, Pat Nelson, Ellen Dean, David Russ, Wayne Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forest Nelson.

BIRTHDAYS

2/21	Gyl Faeth-Miller	2/23	Ava Brown	2/24	Cindy Whitmer
2/21	Roberto Garza	2/23	Kim Whitmore	2/25	Lindsey Jacobson Kinsey
2/22	Karla Garza	2/23	Paige Whitmore		
		2/24	Mark Renfro		

Joys & Concerns

Our joys and concerns are from last weeks service and any emails since:

Karen Russ' friend Ellen, who was hospitalized suffering from covid-19 has been released and is doing better every day. Praise God

Tara Arcenibia's youngest daughter Danie has lost 40 pounds in a few months. The doctors are running tests to see the reason for her weight loss. Pray the reason is found. Please keep Tara, Ismael and the family in your prayers.

Marlene and Mickey Wibom's grandson Dave has an infection in his mechanical heart valve. He will be having open heart surgery this week. Pray for him and all the family.

Cindy, a former co-worker of Janie Kellerman needs our prayers for strength as she just lost her brother. She has lost several family members in the last few months

• **Pastor Judith** asked for continued prayers for our nation to chart a path to reconciliation.

Please continue prayers for Rueben and Rosa. Rueben is still waiting for a surgeon and Rosa might have liver cancer. The doctors are running tests to determine if she has cancer.

Jerald and Sheila Grady still need our prayers as they are going through some rough times.

We hope you will worship with us again.

Due to COVID-19, our physical building and office is closed but our mobile office is open Tuesday – Thursday - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. You can call 779-444-0369, or email: Centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com if you need any assistance.

When you need to reach Pastor Uziel in the case of emergency, please contact him at 224-723-7003 or - centennialumc.pastor@gmail.com



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