

A New Beginning

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

Rev. Uziel Hernandez Martinez, Pastor

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January 9, 2022

Un Nuevo Comienzo

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 9th, 2022 – 10:00am
Baptism of the Lord Sunday: Year C

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING:

Erica Kessler

I Am Bound For The Promised Land
American Folk Hymn arr. by Anna Laura Page

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (unison):

Source of love and mercy, as we enter a new year in the life of this church, may our love for you be made known in our love for one another. Help us leave old grievances and former argument behind, as we open our hearts to the possibilities that lie before us. Guide our footsteps into the glory of your ways, that we may live as you created us to be— beloved children, crowned with glory and honor. May our worship reflect the greatness of our calling, and the honor of our heritage.

AMEN.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing praises to the Lord. Sing of God's glory and strength.

God calls us over the waters, and strengthens us for the journey.

Sing praises to Christ. Sing of Christ's healing and love.

The waters of our baptism cleanse us, renewing our spirits and nursing our wounds.

Sing praises to the Spirit. Sing of the Spirit's comfort and hope.

The flames of the Spirit are like a refiner's fire, purifying the soul to the glory of God.

*OPENING HYMN:

Jesus, Name Above All Names

TFWS 2071 (x2)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison):

Creator of the universe, we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world.

AMEN.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Hear the words of our creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "I have called you by name. You are mine. Do not fear, for I have redeemed you."

HYMN OF WORSHIP:

When Jesus Came to Jordan

UMH 252

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

There's Something About That Name
By Bill and Gloria Gaither

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

Mighty One, your voice is powerful, shaking the wilderness and stripping the forests bare. Speak words of blessing upon our offering this day, that nothing may hinder the good our gifts may do in your name. Give strength to your people, through the gifts we bring before you, that all may know the glory of your Spirit, through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

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:

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to Luke the 3rd chapter, beginning with the 15th verse. . .

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." ²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ!

SERMON:

"Like Us in Every Respect"
Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

UMH 13-15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our joyful thanks and praise.

We thank you, creating God for the great light of your love. When you called forth creation, you said, "Let there be light" and you saw that it was good. You divided the light from darkness and created the sun, moon, and stars to light the sky. It was good, as all your creation was good.

When your people suffered in bondage and oppression, you led them out of slavery. You lit the way to freedom with a pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. You gave them your commandments to light their way, as they strove to become a community of justice and righteousness.

When your people turned from your light, you were still faithful, loving them always. You sent prophets to call them back to the world's true light. And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we sing your praises.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You sent Jesus to us, the light of the world. He promised that those who followed him would never walk in darkness, but would have the light of life. The light of his life shone on all people, revealing the truth of your love. He fed the hungry, cured the sick, ate with sinners, and proclaimed your truth.

Before he was betrayed, he gathered with his friends for a meal. Taking the bread, he gave thanks to you and broke it. He gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat. I am with you now and forever. Let this meal feed you. Remember me as you eat." Then he took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his followers, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant, given for the forgiveness of sins. It is a gift for you and for all people. It is my love offered for you. Drink of this and remember me."

And so, as we remember Jesus, light of the world, teacher, healer, guide, and friend; we offer ourselves into Christ's service, that we too might radiate God's light, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and cup, that they may be for us the living presence of Jesus Christ, light of the world, our hope for all creation. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may become the body of Christ, as we serve creation and reflect the light of your love. Make us one with Jesus, and one with each other, as we walk in the light, singing your praises. Through Jesus Christ, light of the world, and through the Holy Spirit, radiance divine, all praise is yours, eternal God, now and forever, world without end.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: UMH 895

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.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING IN UNISON

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN;**

Spirit Song

UMH 347

***BENEDICTION:**

Go forth and proclaim the good news: God calls us by name and fashions us for glory.

We go as people washed clean in the waters of our baptism,

Go forth and live the good news: the Holy Spirit blesses us and seals us in God's love.

We go as people blessed by God, that we might be a blessing to others.

AMEN.

GOING FORTH:

He's Everything To Me
By Ralph Carmichael

Erica Kessler

CREDITS:

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Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

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Announcements

January 9, 2022

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: on break until January 12th, 2022.

Wednesdays

1st Bible Study: - with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

2nd Bible Study: - on break until February.

MLK SUNDAY SPECIAL SERVICE: Sunday, January 16th, 2022.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SUNDAY: Sunday, January 23rd, 2022.

BLACK HISTORY/HERITAGE MONTH: February 2022.

UMW January 2022 Program

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 1 pm, via Zoom, Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the Yao people in Mozambique

Dr. Julie Henderson (Karen Russ' sister) and her husband Steve joined Christian Veterinary Mission in 2009. Together they worked in Northern Mozambique to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the Yao people there. The Yao are a Muslim tribe and considered an 'unreachable' people group, but God's Spirit is working mightily among them. Join us to learn about Dr. Henderson and Steve's faith journey from Texas to Mozambique.

NEW WEBSITE DOMAIN: We are transitioning to a new Website Domain next year. Beginning May 3rd, 2022, our church's website address will change from

centennialumcrookford.org

to

centennialumcrookford.com

If you have any questions, please call Pastor Uziel.

****PRAYER LIST****

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

At Home: Micaela Serrano, Cleo English, Carol Waxler.

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Maynard Wibom, Rev. Bettye Mixon, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Jerald Grady, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, Ellen Dean, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Noreen Slade, Wayne Russ, Erica Kessler.

BIRTHDAYS

	1/10	Tara Arencibia	
1/9	Carl Dean	1/13	Max Garcia
1/9	Gabriel Mankarious	1/13	Ryan LeBeau

Joys and Concerns

Due to the snow we received last night we had our church service on zoom and facebook today.

Dave Holland said he talked to Pat Nelson (Forrest Nelson's mother) and she said Forrest is doing better and is now talking about his future. What a blessing as he has been ill for a long time.

Todd and Rhonda Kellerman (Janie's son and daughter in law) still need our prayers as they are still suffering from covid. Please pray they receive some healing quickly.

Erica Kessler (our pianist) is undergoing surgery this week. Pray she has good results and the masses on her leg can be removed.

Menese Delgado from our second service is very sick and needs our prayers.

Pastor Uziel has a new nephew as his brother had a baby boy. Congratulations to all their families.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Uziel if you need any assistance, please contact him at 224.723.7003.

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