

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

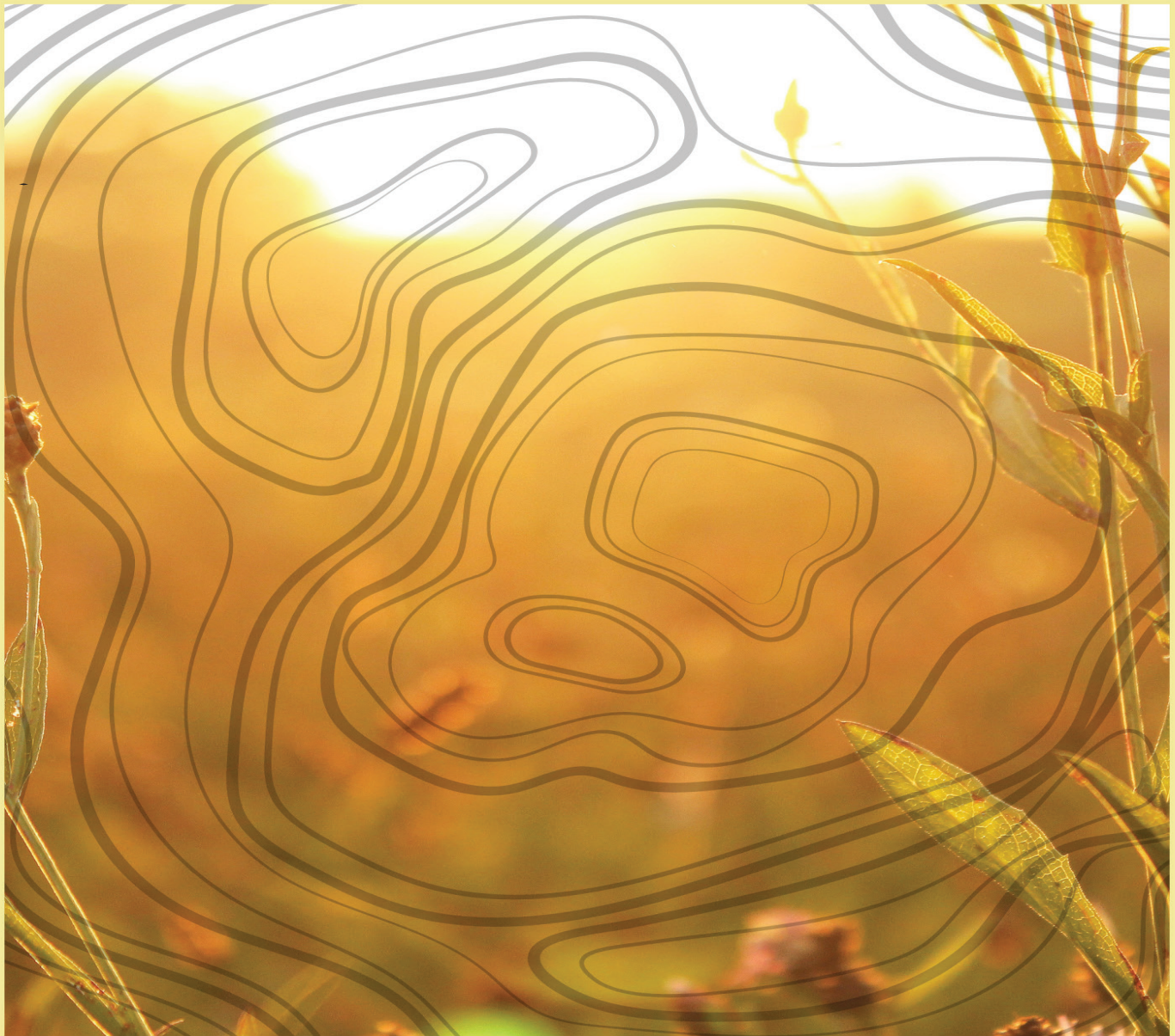
1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

Rev. Uziel Hernandez Martinez, Pastor

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April 24, 2022

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 24th, 2022 – 10:00am - Second Sunday in Easter - Year C

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty
from the Stralsund Gesangbuch
arr. by Cindy Berry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER(Unison)

Eternal God, who was and is and is to come, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end of all things. Come to us now in visions and dreams, that our eyes may see more than they see, and our hearts may love more than they love. Make yourself known to us in this time of worship, for in you, we live and move and have our being. Bring your kingdom here on earth, that all may know your glory and find the courage to face each day. We ask this in the name of the one who conquered the grave to bring us eternal life. AMEN.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord.

Praise God in the sanctuary. Worship God in the mighty firmament.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Praise God with trumpet and horn. Worship God with lute and harp.

Let the people of God sing their praise.

Praise God with tambourine and dance. Worship God with strings and pipes.

Let the faithful join the strain.

Praise God with clashing cymbals. Praise God with beating drums.

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN:

He is Exalted

TFWS 2070 (X2)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who abides in our doubts, we yearn for the courage to believe where we have not seen; we long for the ability to perceive things hidden from our eyes; we desire to embrace the riches of our faith when death looms all around us. Like Thomas before us, we often struggle to believe the mystery of your resurrection. So many doubts remain. So much uncertainty closes our minds to the wisdom that stirs our souls. Yet you work in and through our doubts, leading us ever deeper into the mystery of Christ, through the power of your Holy Spirit. May we see Christ's glory amidst our doubts and proclaim with Thomas, "My Lord and my God!" AMEN

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God has the power to heal us. Christ has the love to save us. The Spirit has the strength to free us. These gifts are graciously given, even in the midst of our doubts. God is here to lead us deeper, and show us the way home.

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 MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
by John Zundel arr. by Denes Agay

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom All Blessings Flow

*OFFERTORY PRAYER (UNISON):

Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, you are the source of every blessing. We behold your glory in the skies and touch your mystery all around us. In the beauty of our awakening, our doubts give way to a deep and abiding joy. In gratitude for your many mercies, we offer you these gifts and offerings, that they may be signs of our commitment to live as your faithful disciples. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

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

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 150

A reading from Psalm... (Unison)

¹ Praise the Lord.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

² Praise him for his acts of power;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

³ Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,

praise him with the harp and lyre,

⁴ praise him with timbrel and dancing,

praise him with the strings and pipe,

⁵ praise him with the clash of cymbals,

praise him with resounding cymbals.

⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 20:19-31

Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to John the 20th chapter, beginning with the 19th verse . . .

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." ²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

"Seeing Isn't Believing"

Pastor Uziel Hernández Martínez

***CLOSING HYMN:**

Open Our Eyes, Lord

TFWS 2086

***BENEDICTION:**

Believe where you have not seen.

Our hearts will lead the way.

Trust where you have reason to doubt.

Our souls will lead us home.

Hope where you have cause to despair.

Our lives will know joy and peace.

Go with God's blessing.

GOING FORTH:

Erica Kessler

Postlude In C
by Henry Purcell
arr. by Tom Birchwood

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Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

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Administrative Assitant: Milka Rivera

PowerPoint: Janie Kellermann

Announcements April 24th, 2022

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays

1st Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.
- Studying the Book of Exodus.

2nd Bible Study:

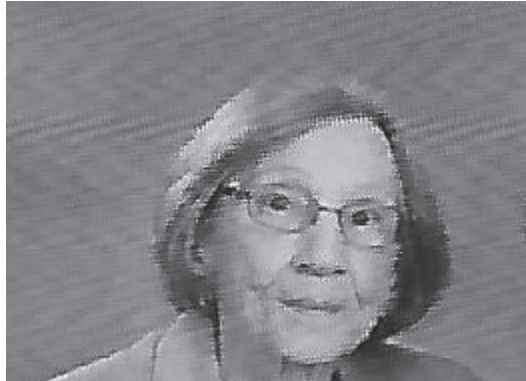
- Wednesdays
- With Pastor Uziel in Spanish, 7pm. On ZOOM and Facebook.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please send any new announcements to the church office email centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com to have it posted on our Sunday bulletin. Preferable two weeks prior or the Thursday before Sunday.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART: We feel blessed to have our flower altar chart back, it is available in our office wall please feel free to pass and choose a date.

Get to Know Me

This is a new feature highlighting some of our older members



Pat Nelson

Pat has been attending Centennial for 41 years. She joined the church when Patricia was confirmed.

When Forrest and Patricia were 3 and 4, Pat attended church services periodically because she was working 3 jobs. But, she wanted the kids to go to Sunday school. Ora Wessler was Pat's neighbor and started taking the kids to church and Sunday School. Shortly after Bob, Ginny and Dave Holland started picking up the kids and taking them to church. This is how Dave and Forrest became such good friends. Forrest would even eventually help Dave with Sunday School.

Pat is living at home with Patricia and gets around with a walker. Pat also has a caregiver who comes a couple of times a week to help with bathing and light housekeeping. Pat doesn't get out much but when she needs to go the doctor or do some errands, the caregiver will take her.

Pat has held several positions at Centennial: Chair of Pastor Parrish, Alternate Conference Lay Representative, Trustees member for a number of years, Wills and Memorials and 5/6 Grade Sunday School teacher. Pat has also organized numerous garage sales for the church.

Pat is so thankful for everyone who has sent cards and really enjoys receiving the Upper Rooms, the Chimes, bulletins and emails from Sharon. She has also kept in touch with Ellen through phone conversations. All these forms of communications really have helped Pat stay connected to Centennial. When her car is fixed, her goal is to come back to church.

Update on Forrest: As many know, Forrest had been sick for about a year and was in and out of the hospital many times. He was finally taken to Madison. He was diagnosed with pancreatitis and heart disease. He had a feeding tube and lost a lot of weight. He is doing better and is at home, has had the drainage tube removed and is eating solid food. He has started to gain weight. Even though he is doing better, he is not out of the woods yet. He still has heart problems and must go back to Madison once a month to meet with his doctors. He has recently started driving again. Pat appreciates all the prayers for Forrest and Dave's visits while Forrest was in the hospital.

****PRAYER LIST****

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

At Home: Micaela Serrano, Cleo English, Carol Waxler, Ellen Dean, Pat Nelson.

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Maynard Wibom, Rev. Bettye Mixon, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Jerald & Sheila Grady, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Noreen Slade, Wayne Russ, Brian Clinkenbeard, Linda Gentry.

BIRTHDAYS

4/26 Forrest Nelson

Joys and Concerns

Dave Holland got the results from his CTScan of his lungs. He does not have cancer. Praise be to God. What a blessing.

Tara Arcenibia's daughter Dani will be under going surgery this week and will be in the hospital for a week. Please keep Dani, Tara, Ismael and their family in your prayers.

Please pray for Milka Rivera as she faces some struggles.

We hope you will worship with us again.

Due to COVID-19, our physical building is at limited capacity. Call the office for more information.

Our office hours are Tuesday - Thursday 10 am to 1 pm.

You can call 815-397-2771 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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