

MUMC At-Home Worship:

May 17, 2020

Friends, with the governor's most recent updated executive order I want to let you know that we will not be meeting in person for worship until at least May 28 and likely some time afterward. I miss you all and while I look forward to being together in person again, I am thankful for a church committed to the safety and health of all in our congregation. When we are able to set more specific plans for gathering, I will let you know.

In the meantime, I'm glad to continue sharing in worship using this at-home worship guide! This week begins a new worship series centered on artistry – the idea that God is an artist and so are we. It seemed appropriate as so many are taking up artistic pastimes while at home! Each week we'll pair a New Testament passage with one from the book of Genesis and I hope we'll have unique insights as a result. Thanks for worshipping with us!

-Pastor Dillon

If available, place a candle in the center of your gathering space and light it with this prayer:

Dear God, may our worship teach us to see your artistry and inspire us to capture the same creativity in our living. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, United Methodist Hymnal #147 – [watch/listen here](#)

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

Gospel Reading: John 2:1-11

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Reflect:

1. Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine might evoke the creation imagery from Genesis when God hovered over the deep waters. How might we see the world differently if we look at both this miracle and all of God's work in our lives as continuations of God's act of creation?
2. The wedding's lack of wine seems like a minor issue, particularly compared to Jesus' later miracles of healing and feeding, but he listens to his mother and miraculously solves the problem. What are some things this might teach us about the character of Jesus?
3. John points out that Jesus created *good* wine, just as God declares things good in the creation story. What differences does it make for you in the wedding story to know that the wine is good? What differences might it make for us to know that God's works aren't merely passable but beautiful?

Hymn: *Take My Life, and Let It Be*, United Methodist Hymnal #399 – [watch/listen here](#)

Prayer Requests: Share prayer requests and have a moment of silent prayer

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, United Methodist Hymnal #89 – [watch/listen here](#)

Closing Prayer:

Creator and Creative God, we offer our lives for your work. In us and through us, may your beauty be proclaimed. In your holy name we pray, Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

All Things Bright and Beautiful
United Methodist Hymnal #147

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful:
the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
and made their tiny wings.
(Refrain)
2. The purple-headed mountains,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky.
(Refrain)
3. The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.
(Refrain)
4. God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.
(Refrain)

“All Things Bright and Beautiful” words by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, and are in the public domain.

Genesis 1:1-5 (CEB)

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God’s wind swept over the waters— God said, “Let there be light.” And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

John 2:1-11 (CEB)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. When the wine ran out, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They don’t have any wine.”

Jesus replied, “Woman, what does that have to do with me? My time hasn’t come yet.”

His mother told the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Nearby were six stone water jars used for the Jewish cleansing ritual, each able to hold about twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water,” and they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, “Now draw some from them and take it to the headwaiter,” and they did. The headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine. He didn’t know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew.

The headwaiter called the groom and said, “Everyone serves the good wine first. They bring out the second-rate wine only when the guests are drinking freely. You kept the good wine until now.” This was the first miraculous sign that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

Scripture quotations noted CEB are taken from the Common English Bible, copyright 2011. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Take My Life, and Let It Be
United Methodist Hymnal #399

1. Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.
2. Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.
3. Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

"Take My Life, and Let It Be" words by Frances R. Havergal, 1873, and is in the public domain.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
United Methodist Hymnal #89

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.
4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward,
in the triumph song of life.

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" words by Henry Van Dyke, 1907, (stanza 4 alt. 1989) and is in the public domain.