

# MUMC At-Home Worship:

May 24, 2020

Is there anything more beautiful than a rainbow after a rain?

This week as we continue in our worship series centered in artistry, we're exploring the passage from Genesis when the rainbow makes its first appearance paired with Jesus' reminder from the Gospel of Matthew not to worry. It can be hard not to worry – at least for me and certainly in tumultuous times like we're in! But the very same God who promised protection to Noah in a sweeping painting across the sky is the one we still trust today. We don't need to spend our time fretting when we know God is in control. We're free to continue walking in the paths God lays for us from day to day!

Keep your eyes open from rainbows this week. 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:** *Leave It There*, United Methodist Hymnal #522 – [watch/listen here](#)

**Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 9:8-17

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 6:25-34

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Reflect:

1. The rainbow in Genesis is a symbol of God's promise to humankind, witnessing both to God's power and restraint. What are some other places in nature that you find beauty that reveals God's character?
2. Jesus asks, "Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life?" and the answer is apparent – none of us can. What might be some more productive ways, spiritual or practical, to handle the things that tend to cause us worry?
3. Rather than worrying, Jesus invites us to seek out God's kingdom and righteousness. What might be some creative or surprising ways we could heed this invitation? Is there something you might consider doing this week to seek out God's kingdom and righteousness?

**Hymn:** *This Is My Father's World*, United Methodist Hymnal #144 – [watch/listen here](#)

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

## Lord's Prayer

**Hymn:** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*, United Methodist Hymnal #480 – [watch/listen here](#)

## Closing Prayer:

Creator and Creative God, we offer our lives for your work. May we live in trust and not worry, free to seek your kingdom. In your holy name we pray, Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

## *Leave It There*

### United Methodist Hymnal #522

1. If the world from you withhold  
of its silver and its gold,  
and you have to get along with meager fare,  
just remember in his Word  
how he feeds the little bird,  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

#### *Refrain:*

Leave it there, leave it there,  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.  
If you trust all through your doubt,  
he will surely bring you out;  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

2. If your body suffers pain,  
and your health you can't regain,  
and your soul is almost sinking in despair,  
Jesus knows the pain you feel,  
he can save and he can heal,  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

#### *(Refrain)*

3. When your enemies assail,  
and your heart begins to fail,  
don't forget that God in heaven answers prayer;  
he will make a way for you,  
and will lead you safely through,  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

#### *(Refrain)*

4. When your youthful days are done,  
and old age is stealing on,  
and your body bends beneath the weight of care,  
he will never leave you then,  
he'll go with you to the end,  
take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

#### *(Refrain)*

*"Leave It There" words by Charles Albert Tindley, 1906, and are in the public domain.*

### **Genesis 9:8-17 (CEB)**

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will

all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth's creatures." God said to Noah, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth."

### **Matthew 6:25-34 (CEB)**

"Therefore, I say to you, don't worry about your life, what you'll eat or what you'll drink, or about your body, what you'll wear. Isn't life more than food and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds in the sky. They don't sow seed or harvest grain or gather crops into barns. Yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than they are? Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? Notice how the lilies in the field grow. They don't wear themselves out with work, and they don't spin cloth. But I say to you that even Solomon in all of his splendor wasn't dressed like one of these. If God dresses grass in the field so beautifully, even though it's alive today and tomorrow it's thrown into the furnace, won't God do much more for you, you people of weak faith? Therefore, don't worry and say, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' Gentiles long for all these things. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. Instead, desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, stop worrying about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

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

***This Is My Father's World***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #144**

1. This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father's world,  
the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world:  
he shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father's world.  
O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let the earth be glad!

*"This Is My Father's World" words by Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901, and is in the public domain.*

***O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #480**

1. O Love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths  
its flow may richer, fuller be.
2. O Light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
my heart restores its borrowed ray,  
that in thy sunshine's blaze  
its day may brighter, fairer be.
3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow thru the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain,  
that morn shall tearless be.
4. O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
and from the ground there blossoms  
red life that shall endless be.

*"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" words by George Matheson, 1882, and is in the public domain.*