

MUMC At-Home Worship:

July 19, 2020

Hello, dear friends! I pray this worship guide finds you well as we all continue navigating these uncertain times. As we continue living into this in-between space, I wanted to let you know that we're committed to offering worship tools in as many ways as possible in our efforts to reach every corner of our congregation – including live stream worship and this printed worship guide – and in the coming days, we'll be adding one more! We will be utilizing a service that will provide a local phone number to call and hear the audio of the previous Sunday's sermon. It's my hope that this will be one more way we can connect with one another in worship. Look for more details next week! Until then, stay healthy and have a blessed week. -Pastor Dillon

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

God of welcome, center us in your Spirit during this time of worship. Train our eyes and our feet on the coming day of your kingdom, that we might wait with patience and with hope. Amen.

Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*, United Methodist Hymnal #384 – [watch/listen here](#)

New Testament Reading: Romans 8:12-25

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Reflect:

1. In this passage, Paul unravels our obligation (sometimes translated as “debt”) to say that we are freed from any sense of slavery when we become children (and heirs!) of God. Sometimes, though, we treat ourselves as though we are still enslaved by becoming fearfully fixated on the distance between God's laws and the state of our souls. Have you ever experienced this entrapment? What might it look like to live free of this fear as a child of God but not yet ignorant of sin?
2. “I believe that the present suffering,” Paul says, “is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us.” What sufferings do we know in the present? What do imagine might be a part of the coming glory that is yet to be revealed?
3. The passage ends with a hope for what we cannot yet see coming to pass. It can be difficult to maintain hope without a glimpse of what we're hoping for! How might we strengthen our resolve when it's hard for our hope to endure?

Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*, United Methodist Hymnal #127 – [watch/listen here](#)

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

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *We Shall Overcome*, United Methodist Hymnal #533 – [watch/listen here](#)

Closing Prayer:

Holy God, guide us on the way to your coming glory. Give us strength to persist in hope, looking toward a day we cannot yet see. Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
United Methodist Hymnal #128

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” words are by Charles Wesley, 1747, and are in the public domain.

Romans 8:12-25 (CEB)

So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters. You didn't receive a spirit of slavery to lead you back again into fear, but you received a Spirit that shows you are adopted as his children. With this Spirit, we cry, "Abba, Father." The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God's children. But if we are children, we are also heirs. We are God's heirs and fellow heirs with Christ, if we really suffer with him so that we can also be glorified with him.

I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us. The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
The United Methodist Hymnal # 127

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” words are by William Williams, 1745; translated from the Welsh by Peter Williams and the author, 1771; and are in the public domain.

We Shall Overcome
United Methodist Hymnal #533

1. We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall overcome someday!
2. We'll walk hand in hand...
3. We shall all be free...
4. We shall live in peace...
5. The Lord will see us through...

“We Shall Overcome” words are an African-American spiritual and are in the public domain.