

# MUMC At-Home Worship:

*August 2, 2020*

Friends, forgive me for just one more reminder about our sermon by phone system! I am so excited to have a way to share scripture and sermon content without requiring any internet connection at all. Give the line a call at **734-206-1531** at any time and it will automatically begin playing the scripture and sermon from the last Sunday for you. Even if you'd just like to hear the scripture from below, you can call the number and just hang up after the scripture is finished and the sermon begins – it's not rude to hang up on an automated system!

I hope you have a wonderful and blessed week! I'm praying for you!

*-Pastor Dillon*

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

God of mystery, help us recognize your Spirit in this place and open the fullness of our hearts to you. Inspire us to ask questions, live in wonder, and to love deeply. Amen.

**Hymn:** *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*, United Methodist Hymnal #386 – [watch/listen here](#)

**Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 32:22-31

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Reflect:**

1. The context to this Old Testament reading is that many years earlier, Jacob tricked his brother out of his inheritance and when his brother was understandably upset and wanted to kill Jacob, he ran away. Now on his way to see his brother again, he gets a report that his brother's welcome party had four hundred men and he again fears for his life. Have you ever been in a position where you have worried your old life would catch up to you? How did it feel? What did you do?
2. Jacob wrestles with someone the text seems to imply is God. Have you ever wrestled with God over anything? What do you think it might mean to win a wrestling match against God, as Jacob does?
3. The text ends with Jacob receiving a new name, "Israel," which becomes also the name of his descendants ("Israelites"). How might Jacob's wrestling match have changed his identity and sense of self? How might our identities be changed if we see ourselves also as wrestlers seeking the blessing of God?

**Hymn:** *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee*, United Methodist Hymnal #623 – [watch/listen here](#)

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

**Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** *Forward Through the Ages*, United Methodist Hymnal #555 – [watch/listen here](#)

**Closing Prayer:**

Holy God, whether we meet you wrestling or in solace, we thank you for your eternal presence. Be with us all the days of this week and forever. Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

*Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*  
United Methodist Hymnal #386

1. Come, O thou Traveler unknown,  
whom still I hold, but cannot see!  
My company before is gone,  
and I am left alone with thee.  
With thee all night I mean to stay,  
and wrestle till the break of day;  
with thee all night I mean to stay,  
and wrestle till the break of day.
2. I need not tell thee who I am,  
my misery and sin declare;  
thyself hast called me by my name,  
look on thy hands and read it there.  
But who, I ask thee, who art thou?  
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.  
But who, I ask thee, who art thou?  
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.
3. Yield to me now, for I am weak,  
but confident in self-despair!  
Speak to my heart, in blessing speak,  
be conquered by my instant prayer.  
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,  
and tell me if thy name is Love.  
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,  
and tell me if thy name is Love.
4. 'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me,  
I hear thy whisper in my heart.  
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,  
pure, Universal Love thou art.  
To me, to all, thy mercies move;  
thy nature and thy name is Love.  
To me, to all, thy mercies move;  
thy nature and thy name is Love.

*"Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown" words are by Charles Wesley, 1742, and are in the public domain.*

**Genesis 32:22-31 (CEB)**

Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. When the man saw that he couldn't defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. The man said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name won't be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won."

Jacob also asked and said, "Tell me your name."

But he said, "Why do you ask for my name?" and he blessed Jacob there. Jacob named the place Peniel, "because I've seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved." The sun rose as Jacob passed Penuel, limping because of his thigh.

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

***Here, O My Lord, I See Thee***  
**The United Methodist Hymnal #623**

1. Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.
2. This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
this is the heavenly table spread for me;  
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong  
the hallowed hour of fellowship with thee.
3. Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.
4. Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear;  
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.  
The bread and wine remove; but thou art here,  
nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
5. Feast after feast thus comes and passes by;  
yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,  
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.

*"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee" words are by Horatius Bonar, 1857, based on Rev. 19:6-9, and are in the public domain.*

***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #381**

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
much we need thy tender care;  
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use thy folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,  
seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
We will early turn to thee.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
We will early turn to thee.
4. Early let us seek thy favor,  
early let us do thy will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" words are attributed to Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836, are based on John 10:1-29, and are in the public domain.*