

MUMC At-Home Worship:

August 30, 2020

It's the final week of our "At the Movies" series as we make plans to gather on Friday, August 28 to watch *The Greatest Showman!* It has been great gathering together for movies this month and we will be looking to provide even more opportunities to gather safely in community going forward – most likely beginning with a back to school prayer drive after worship on Sunday, September 30! We're still finalizing all the details, but I'll be sure the full information is in next week's worship guide. I'm so glad to have you as a part of our church family!

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, you created all people and have worked throughout history to return us to your arms. May we who know your love work to extend its reach to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Hymn: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, United Methodist Hymnal #400 – [watch/listen here](#)

New Testament Reading: Matthew 9:9-13

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Reflect:

1. The scripture text and the pharisees are quick to describe those Jesus is eating with as "tax collectors and sinners." What do you imagine the pharisees saw when they looked at this crowd? What do you imagine Jesus saw when looking at them? How might we seek to see others as Jesus sees them?
2. Jesus quotes the Old Testament prophet Hosea saying, "I want mercy and not sacrifice." What do you imagine this might mean? What would it look like to live with mercy but not sacrifice?
3. The clear emphasis of this passage and frequent other testimonies of Jesus' ministry is that he came to call sinners rather than the righteous. Where do you tend to place yourself on the sinner / righteous spectrum? Do you imagine that Jesus' description of his own ministry should encourage us to recognize ourselves as sinners in need of grace and, if so, how might that effect our faith?

Hymn: *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*, United Methodist Hymnal #340 – [watch/listen here](#)

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

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love*, United Methodist Hymnal #566 – [watch/listen here](#)

Closing Prayer:

God, you have drawn us into relationship in the body of Christ with all manner of people. Gift us with the spirit of Christ to sit in fellowship with every child of God, even those we are inclined to distance ourselves from. In Christ's name, Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
United Methodist Hymnal #400

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.
2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" words by Robert
Robinson, 1758, and are in the public domain.*

Matthew 9:9-13 (CEB)

As Jesus continued on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at a kiosk for collecting taxes. He said to him, "Follow me," and he got up and followed him. As Jesus sat down to eat in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners joined Jesus and his disciples at the table. But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

When Jesus heard it, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. Go and learn what this means: *I want mercy and not sacrifice*. I didn't come to call righteous people, but sinners."

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

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
United Methodist Hymnal #340

1. Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me with his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

2. Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh.
(*Refrain*)
3. Come ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all.
(*Refrain*)
4. Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him.
(*Refrain*)

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" words are by Joseph Hart, 1759, and are in the public domain.

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love
United Methodist Hymnal #566

1. Blest be the dear uniting love
that will not let us part;
our bodies may far off remove,
we still are one in heart.
2. Joined in one spirit to our Head,
where he appoints we go,
and still in Jesus' footsteps tread,
and do his work below.
3. O may we ever walk in him,
and nothing know beside,
nothing desire, nothing esteem,
but Jesus crucified!
4. We all are one who him receive,
and each with each agree,
in him the One, the Truth, we live;
blest point of unity!
5. Partakers of the Savior's grace,
the same in mind and heart,
nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place,
nor life, nor death can part.

"Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love" words are by Charles Wesley, 1742, are based of 1 Cor. 2:2, and are in the public domain.