

## MUMC At-Home Worship: November 22, 2020

As you might know, things have changed a bit in the past week as the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has set new guidelines to help combat the rising impact of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. While we are making a few changes at the church to follow these guidelines, I'm glad to say the impact on our worship and ministry is minimal as we have already been prudent in stewarding our shared health. Starting immediately, we are decreasing our attendance limit in the church building to 10 individuals and suspending office hours. Worship will continue as it has, including with these at-home worship guides and the sermon by phone line at **734-206-1531**. Stay healthy, stay safe, and thank you for worshipping with us!

*-Pastor Dillon*

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

Almighty God, ruler of all creation: may our worship open us to your presence, your voice, and your guidance. In Christ's name, Amen.

**Hymn:** *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*, United Methodist Hymnal #715 [watch/listen here](#)

**Old Testament Reading:** Obadiah 1:17-21

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Reflect:**

1. In the first verse of this reading, Obadiah describes the coming kingdom of God as starting with refugees who escape to Mount Zion. How might it be valuable for us to see ourselves as refugees waiting for the day of the Lord? What might we be escaping from?
2. Last week's reading from Obadiah (verses 15-16) spoke of all nations instead of just Edom/Esau; while this week's returns to speaking specifically against Edom, the rhetorical effect is that the 'Esau' being referenced is no longer a single nation but a stand-in for anything perpetuating injustice and violence. What might be some things in the world and in ourselves that God would burn up so as not to be present in the reign of the Lord?
3. What began with a longstanding family division that caught up entire nations in their conflict, now ends hopefully in this vision of a single people in the kingdom of God. How might this image of future reconciliation and unity impact how we live in the present? What might it look like to live our prayer, "your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven"?

**Hymn:** *The Church's One Foundation*, United Methodist Hymnal #545 [watch/listen here](#)

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

**Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** *Lead On, O King Eternal*, United Methodist Hymnal #580 [watch/listen here](#)

**Closing Prayer:** Mighty God, direct our eyes to the coming day when all shall be one and united under your holy reign. Grant us the courage to live as refugees of this present age, walking the path that will one day lead us to Mount Zion and your kingdom of peace and righteousness. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen. (*Blow out the candle*)

***Rejoice, the Lord Is King***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #715**

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore;  
Mortals, give thanks and sing,  
And triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
2. Jesus the Savior reigns,  
The God of truth and love;  
When he had purged our stains,  
He took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
3. His kingdom cannot fail,  
He rules o'er earth and heaven;  
The keys of earth and hell  
Are to our Jesus given:  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
4. Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Jesus the Judge shall come,  
And take his servants up  
To their eternal home:  
We soon shall hear  
Th'archangel's voice;  
The trump of God  
Shall sound, rejoice!

*"Rejoice, the Lord Is King" words are by Charles Wesley, 1746, music is by John Darwall, 1770, and are in the public domain.*

**Obadiah 1:15-16 (CEB)**

But on Mount Zion there will be those who escape, and it will be holy; and the house of Jacob will drive out those who drove them out. The house of Jacob will be a fire, the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau straw; they will burn them up completely, and there will be no one left of the house of Esau, for the Lord has spoken.

Those of the arid southern plain will possess Mount Esau, and those of the western foothills, the land of the Philistines; they will possess the land of Ephraim and the land of Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.

Those who remain of the Israelites will possess the land of the Canaanites as far as Zarephath; and those left from Jerusalem and who are now living in Sepharad will possess the cities of the arid southern plain.

The deliverers will go up to Mount Zion to rule Mount Esau, and the kingdom will be the Lord's.

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

***The Church's One Foundation***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #545**

1. The church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought her  
To be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her,  
And for her life he died.
2. Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.
3. Though with a scornful wonder  
we see her sore oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
Their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.
4. Mid toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious  
Shall be the church at rest.
5. Yet she on earth hath union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with thee.

*"The Church's One Foundation" words are by Samuel J. Stone, 1866, music is by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864, and are in the public domain.*

***Lead On, O King Eternal***  
**United Methodist Hymnal #580**

1. Lead on, O King eternal,  
the day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
thy tents shall be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
thy grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.
2. Lead on, O King eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet amen of peace.  
For not with swords loud clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums;  
with deeds of love and mercy,  
the heavenly kingdom comes.
3. Lead on, O King eternal;  
we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er thy face appears.  
Thy cross is lifted o'er us,  
we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest;  
lead on, O God of might.

*"Lead On, O King Eternal" words are by Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887, music is by Henry T. Smart, 1835, and are in the public domain.*