

MUMC At-Home Worship: May 30, 2021

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

Holy God, our guide and guardian: you have led us away from the busy world into the quiet of your presence. Grant that our time in this space might comfort our souls as it renews our spirits, that we may worship you in word and deed all the days of our lives. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*, United Methodist Hymnal #139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!
Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" words by Joachim Neander, 1680; and music is Erneuertem Gesangbuch, 1665.

Scripture Lesson

Psalms 29 Common English Bible

- 29 You, divine beings! Give to the Lord—give to the Lord glory and power!
² Give to the Lord the glory due his name! Bow down to the Lord in holy splendor!
³ The Lord's voice is over the waters; the glorious God thunders;
the Lord is over the mighty waters.
⁴ The Lord's voice is strong; the Lord's voice is majestic.
⁵ The Lord's voice breaks cedar trees—yes, the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶ He makes Lebanon jump around like a young bull,
makes Sirion jump around like a young wild ox.
⁷ The Lord's voice unleashes fiery flames;
⁸ the Lord's voice shakes the wilderness—yes, the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹ The Lord's voice convulses the oaks, strips the forests bare,
but in his temple everyone shouts, "Glory!"
¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned over the floodwaters; the Lord sits enthroned—king forever!
¹¹ Let the Lord give strength to his people! Let the Lord bless his people with peace!

John 3:1-17 Common English Bible

3 There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. ² He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus

answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born anew,^[a] it’s not possible to see God’s kingdom.”

⁴ Nicodemus asked, “How is it possible for an adult to be born? It’s impossible to enter the mother’s womb for a second time and be born, isn’t it?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom. ⁶ Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Don’t be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ ⁸ God’s Spirit^[b] blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. It’s the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus said, “How are these things possible?” ¹⁰ “Jesus answered, “You are a teacher of Israel and you don’t know these things? ¹¹ I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don’t receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One.^[c] ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One^[d] be lifted up ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. ¹⁶ God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won’t perish but will have eternal life. ¹⁷ God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Reflect:

1. How is it possible for three separate living things to all be one?
2. How comfortable are you with living into a mystery for which there are few factual answers?
3. What is your name for God when you are in prayer? (Father? Holy One? Holy Spirit?) What is God’s name for you?

Hymn: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*, United Methodist Hymnal #420

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
Till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” words by Edwin Hatch, 1878; music by Robert Jackson, 1888.

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

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*, United Methodist Hymnal #79

Holy God, we praise thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth thy scepter claim;
all in heaven above adore thee.
Infinite thy vast domain;
everlasting is thy reign.

Hark the glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Lo! the apostolic train
joins thy sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow.
And from morn to set of sun,
through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit: three we name thee,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim thee,
and adoring bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" words by Ignaz Franz, 18th cent.; music is Katholisches Gesangbuch, ca. 1774.

Closing Prayer: Holy God, bless us as we go from this place that we might be witnesses to your gospel and messengers of your love. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Blow out the candle)