

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



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Hyattstown-Clarksburg United Methodist Parish
Pastor: Dave Hodsdon , revdwhodsdon@verizon.net
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPzJQEvd60apduOgx0Jm3Q>

Clarksburg United Methodist Church
<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>
<https://clarksburgmdumc.org/>
23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland
CUMC Accompanist: Rick Beede
CUMC Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

Hyattstown United Methodist Church
<https://www.facebook.com/Hyattstown-United-Methodist-Church-146846181999711/>
26121 Frederick Rd, Clarksburg, Maryland
HUMC Accompanist: Tim Bossler

On YouTube this Week

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY5iZ1NS28HTiZRftyrzqqmMD8rlcivF1>
Sunday Worship 1 - Prayers and Praise - 9:00am
Sunday Worship 2 - Hearing "the Word" - 9:30am
Lenten Reflection #5 - Wednesday Morning, 7am.

Previous Reflections remain available for viewing.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2021

PART 1 - PRAISE AND PRAYERS

PRELUDE

WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES
Rick-Hymnal 185-rick-20Aug09.mp4

185

Dear Church Family, I have chosen as this weeks anthem, the hymn, "When Morning Gilds the Skies." It is performed by an amazing church orchestra and choir, and shows the lyrics. Listening to this hymn turns our hearts to praise Jesus Christ for bringing us joy and calming our fears. We thank our dear Lord, for being with us always, and as this hymn says, "May Jesus Christ be praised!" Amen. Blessings to all this week,
Cathy and Clark

OPENING WORDS / WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eph. 2:10

FotW

**Almighty God, through Jesus Christ you bring salvation to the world.
Give us strength to believe in him
that we may share in his victory over the power of death
and fulfill the purpose for which you have made us,
for he dwells with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 107)

RG

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
for God's steadfast love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those God redeemed from trouble.
God gathers us
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Let us thank the Lord for God's steadfast love,
for God's wonderful works to humankind.

HYMN 1

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound
Rick-Hymnal 378-rick-20Jun14.mp4

378

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

International Committee on English in the Liturgy (ICEL)
Father in Heaven, the light of your truth
bestows sight to the darkness of sinful eyes.
May this season of repentance
bring us the blessing of Your forgiveness
and the gift of Your light.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURES

Numbers 21:4–9
John 3:14–21

CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ has lifted up our brokenness
so that we might see the wounds of the world.
In the light of Christ, we can find healing and mercy.
Let us confess our sin before our merciful and healing God.

RG

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

RG

O God, you have set before us
our greed, our hatred and self-hatred,
our fear and our apathy.
You have also shown us
the injustice and tyrannies of our public life.
We protest the problems of our world,
but we do not actively work to address them.
We have succumbed to paralyzing anxiety in response to injustice.
We have resisted the prompting of your Spirit who nudges us out of self-absorption.
Empower us by your Spirit to be attentive and discerning partners
in healing your creation. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
381.mp3

381

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's healing mercy abounds.
God's grace goes before us, after us, through us
— sometimes even unbeknownst to us.
Friends, Believe the good of the gospel:

**We are forgiven and restored to right paths of justice and shalom.
Thanks be to God!**

INTERCESSIONS

Philippians 4:6
Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.
Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

BACKGROUND HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
452.mp3

452

Eph. 2:8-10; Ps. 107:17-20; John 3:16; Eph. 2:1-3 *FotW*

*... For the church of Jesus Christ,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.*

*... Dispel from your children arrogance of heart,
that the world may be drawn to your truth by their humble witness.
Merciful God, hear our prayer.*

*... For pastors and teachers,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.*

*... For governments and leaders,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.*

*... For all who sorrow in distress,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.*

*O God, in Jesus Christ you have shown your love for the world.
Receive our prayers, grant us what we need,
save us from perishing, and bring us to everlasting life.*

These prayers we offer, in the name and spirit of Jesus, who taught us these words to pray ...

AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen**

HYMN 2

To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done!
Rick-Hymnal 098 -3v.mp4

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SEQUE

INTERLUDE

VIDEO MEDITATION ON PSALM 107
Crown Him with Many Crowns
Rick-Hymnal 327-lyrics 4v.mp4

327

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ORDER OF WORSHIP - SEGMENT 2

INTERLUDE2

Of the Father's Love Begotten

184

Rick-Hymnal 184-rick-20Aug09-copyright 1981 Church Pension Fund.mp4

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps. 107:1

FotW

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RG

Pour out your Spirit to us to open our hearts,
so that we may discern your Word

in and through the words that we are about to hear.

Show us your way
that we may see clearly and live faithfully

by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

HYMN 3

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Rick-Hymnal 127-rick-20Jun14.mp4

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SERMON

EPH 2

We Are God's Handiwork.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH)

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God
and open to God's reality and rule.

Christ teaches us to put obedience to God
above the interests of self, family, race, or nation;
to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.

It is part of our daily discipline to observe a day of worship and rest,
setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work,
celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.

We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture,
not expecting detailed directions for every decision,
but relying on the Word to tell us who God is,
to press God's present claim on us, and
to assure us of God's grace and comfort.

We are charged to pray for ourselves and others
with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that
God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all.

Life in God's presence issues in life for others,
for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see,
we cannot love God whom we do not see.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

RG

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.
God has given to us many good gifts, and calls us to respond.
Let us now give in return.
And share with others God's deeds, in our songs of joy.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ps. 107:1, 22

RG & FotW

**Merciful God, we thank you for your
wonderful works among humankind.**

**Accept the offerings we present, today and throughout the week
with the dedication of our lives to you and your service.**

Bless all that we offer so that it might serve you in this church and in our world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The State of the Church with Bishop Easterling

Register now for the webinar on Tuesday, March 16, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

~ **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**

*Today may there be peace within.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities
that are born of faith in yourself and others.
May you use the gifts that you have received,
and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content with yourself just the way you are.
Let this knowledge settle into your bones,
and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.
It is there for each and every one of us.*

Amen

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

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Tune 1918-Public Domain*

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Credits

FotW

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International Committee on English in the Liturgy (ICEL)

*via
https://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Lent.htm*

RG

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BCP

Book of Common Prayer, Public Domain,

GBoD

*Courtesy the General Board of Discipleship
(aka Discipleship Ministries) of the United Methodist Church
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>*

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Benediction

~ **St. Thérèse of Lisieux** (2 January 1873 – 30 September 1897)

Video Meditation on Psalm 107

<https://www.festivalofhomiletics.com/free-lent-worship-resources-for-march/>

Reflecting on and Praying with the Lectionary

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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LECTIONARY LESSONS

Numbers 21:4–9

Psalms 107:1–3, 17–22

Ephesians 2:1–10

John 3:14–21

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

What does the light of God's truth reveal about your life?

Are there parts of your life that you want to hide from God?

Can you imagine what it would be like

to live completely transparent to God's piercing light?

MORNING PRAYER:

Loving God,

draw me to your light,

that I may avoid the dangers of sin

and receive the freedom of your grace

in Jesus Christ. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER:

Lord Christ,

as shadows of night draw near,

sustain me by the light that banishes the fearful claim of death.

Help me believe in you with all my heart

that I may know the freedom of salvation

and at last receive the joy of eternal life. Amen.

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

14 - 20 March 2021

Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

More may be found here:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/denmark-faroe-islands-finland-greenland-iceland-norway-sweden>

Give thanks for:

- ✓ *the spectacular beauty of the changing landscape of forests, lakes, mountains and glaciers*
- ✓ *churches that are advocating and implementing measures to redress climate change that is dramatic here and throughout the world*
- ✓ *those who have opened their doors and hearts to people migrating to these lands*
- ✓ *the support for justice, peace and interfaith work that comes from these countries.*

Pray for:

- ✓ *the poor and marginalized who struggle in these rich countries*
- ✓ *personal and investment practices that support environmental sustainability*
- ✓ *growing openness to becoming more multi-ethnic, multi-faith societies*
- ✓ *those who are affluent that they will contribute to making the world & their societies more just for all.*
- ✓ *a Church that is prepared to be a voice in the struggle for indigenous people rights.*

Prayers *A prayer for the time of climate change* (Panu Pihkala, Finland, from Luontokirkkovoosi (LK-kirjat, 2013))

Dear Heavenly Father, we bring before you our despair about climate change.
It feels so bad, when so many forms of life are threatened,
but still the nations are not able to work together to alleviate the problem.
O Lord, help humankind to choose a better road, so we could find peace!
Thank you for your promise to be with us, no matter what.
Thank you for all the gifts that you give to your world
through air, wind and the Holy Spirit.
Thank you for nourishment, power and joy.
Let your Holy Spirit flow strongly in us and in your world.
In the name of Jesus.

Blessings (© 2012 Margareta Melin, Sweden)

Blessings
on the earth
our beautiful blue planet
our home in Cosmos.

Blessings
on all good will
every act
in candour and love.

Blessings
on the light
in human hearts.

May it grow strong
embrace the darkness
bring peace
and reconciliation.

Heaven in the soles of my feet (by Bishop Elof Westergaard, Denmark; English translation by Kari Veiteberg)

**Himmelbjerget (The Sky Mountain) is a 147 meters mountain and is one of the highest points in Denmark.*

*Father, Son and Spirit
your name is more than one and three.
You are who you are
and the one who is
always more than the sum of all the numbers.
You are body
impossible to pin down
and at the same time I see you in my neighbor's hand and eyes.
Yes, I feel you in the wind.
You are the forest dove and the pheasant,
the burning bush and the fruit box from Gaza,
you are my surfboard and my ancestors' rod and staff.
You are the heaven in the soles of my feet
and the one that gives the crust of the earth its smooth layer.
You are the golden plover of paradise.
With your son as captain
and with the winds from the west
we sail off into your lake
against your Himmelbjerg*, heavenly mountain.*

Sending forth

(Hans Olav Moerk, Norway; English translation Kari Veiteberg, from the worship at the Church City Mission in Oslo)

*Go!
Go in haste!
Never stop walking out of the church room,
out from peace and tranquility, into the noise and discomfort,
out, to laughter and tears.
Carry with you the living bread,
as a treasure in your hands and your heart .
Share it over and over again.
It will always be enough, as long as you continue to break it.*

Come!

*Never stop coming back to this place!
Never arrive empty-handed.
Bring with you the cry that is pressing just behind your lips.
Let it be heard in this room.
Bring with you the hunger that is never stilled,
the fight that is not yet won.
Bring someone who has always been at your side without you knowing it.
Here is the meeting place - in the light of God's face .*