

PRELUDE, *It's Me, It's Me, O Lord* 352
GATHERING & CENTERING
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Ann Kipper

CALL TO WORSHIP *Lectionary Texts* *DWH*
The Lord God called, and Samuel listened.
Everyone knew that **Samuel was a faithful prophet.**
Our Lord Jesus called Philip and Nathanael.
All the disciples followed and saw many wonders.
By the Spirit, the Lord still calls out.
The Lord knows us thoroughly, and still calls ... US!
Earlier generations were careful to heed the call of God.
May we be just as careful with the work God entrusts to us.

PRAYER *Speak Lord, by Safiyah Fosua* *via Discipleship Ministries UMC*

HYMN *Open My Eyes, That I May See* **454**

FIRST LESSON *1 Samuel 3:1-10, and 19-20*

GOSPEL *John 1:43-51*

EPISTLE READING *1 Corinthians 6:12-14, 18-20* *Pastor*

LITANY FOR HUMAN RELATIONS DAY *by Sharletta M. Green (alt DWH)*
via Discipleship Ministries UMC

*The weeping in Ramah (Matthew 2:18) has been loud,
and nothing will comfort the cries of mothers
whose children will never come home.*

Oh God, hear our cries
and send healing, change and unity to your land.
*Innocent blood cries out from the soil
for lives taken because of the color of their skin,
their gender, and cultural differences.*

Oh God, hear our cries
and send healing, change and unity to our land.
*We have marched, sung, and run,
We have prayed, watched, and waited for a change to come.*

We have buried loved ones, leaders slain in their prime;
and our families have suffered
for the hatred that has plagued our land.

*We've seen our dreams delayed and fade
with the passing of time,
hoping, praying that a brighter future would come
for our children and grandchildren.
We listened to "I have a dream" speeches;
we chanted with the crowd "Yes, we can!"
We believed in a new day when each one
would be seen, treated as accepted, protected as American.*

AND, God has heard our cries
and is sending healing, change and unity to our land.
*We stand together, Black, White,
Jews, Gentiles, Muslims, churched and unchurched.
Together we watch the dream become a reality
as we put aside our differences and hold hands.*

God has heard our cries
and is sending healing, change, and unity to our land.
*Yes, we celebrate this day our unity in God.
Our differences serve as a reminder of how precious
each of us is in the human tapestry of life
and that the future holds great things for the next generation.*

Yes, God has heard our cries.
Yes, healing, change, and unity are sweeping the land!

{silent prayers}

(Ephesians 1:7-8, GNB)
*... by the blood of Christ we are set free,
that is, our sins are forgiven.
How great is the grace of God,
which he gave to us in such large measure.*

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHOIR *Here I Am, Lord* **593**
SERMON

HYMN *I Am Thine, O Lord* **419**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - *extra space for notes on insert*
INTERCESSIONS
THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

GBOD/DM

All Wise God, how often have we been deaf to your voice?
As we bring our gifts to be dedicated this morning,
we pray that you might open our ears, open our hearts
to hear where you call us to respond with obedience,
so that we might do what you need
to begin healing our world. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

HYMN *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* **128**

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

TMO/PO

May we leave this house of worship emboldened by the Spirit
redeemed by God's Grace and ready to follow Christ's call.
May the grace, hope, peace and love of God
the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
be with us now and always. Amen.

Amen

POSTLUDE *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* **474**

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www.umc.org/en/content/human-relations-day-sunday-ministry-article
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HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Restoring
beloved
community



January 14, 2024

11:00am

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland
<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmumc/>

Accompanist: Rick Beede
Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

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Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

*As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary
Year B – Human Relations Day; January 14, 2024*

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Scriptures

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

Questions for Reflection

Where, in what place, and through what person or persons do you hear the call of the Lord? Consider it each day this week. Who has awakened in you a new prayer, a hope, an insight? Give thanks for those persons and moments as signs of God's love for you.

Morning Prayers:

As I rise this day, O God, I give you thanks for breath and life,
for the people I will see today,
for family, neighbors, and friends,
and for those whose ways are challenging to my serenity.
Help me to give thanks especially
for the people who pull me to new understandings
and show me sides of life that I have not known
or do not welcome.
Urge me to follow you today; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

As the evening comes and the time for rest draws near, O God,
I give you thanks for another full and mystifying day.
I have not done everything I had hoped to do.
I have not forgiven myself or others as I ought.
I ask now that you, who know me through and through,
will lead me to let go of what I cannot change
and seek anew tomorrow for a more enlightened path.
I long for your guidance and your care.
Guard my sleep, and let me rise renewed; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Human Relations Day

www.umc.org/en/content/human-relations-day-sunday-ministry-article

This a denomination-wide Special Sunday that celebrates and raises awareness about the strength of human relationships. A special offering is received on the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and contributes to building his vision of "the beloved community" through programs such as the Better Community Development, Inc.

Better Community Development, Inc. prioritizes the restoration of a neglected community through the Theresa Hoover Memorial United Methodist Church in Little Rock. The Hoover Treatment Center is a faith-based substance abuse treatment center that provides a safe, drug-free environment for participants and their families.

On Human Relations Day, we celebrate stories of success. For example, one of the BCD's current faith leaders struggled with addiction for her entire life before finding the Hoover Treatment Center. Not only did she find success in recovery, but she also found Jesus. She works with women who have exited the in-patient program to prevent relapse and nurture spiritual growth as an avenue for recovery. "When you strive to be the best version of you that you can be, you start to embrace who God created you to be," she said, "because you start to get proud of yourself, and God truly shows you he's proud."

~ excerpt adapted from a story by Caroline Loftin, contributing writer,

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, Human Relations Day calls United Methodists to recognize the right of all God's children to reach their potential as human beings in relationship with one another. The special offering benefits neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

HOW TO GIVE:

Write a check to your local church
and write "Human Relations Day offering" in the memo line.
To give online or set up monthly giving, go to **UMC.org/SSGive**.