

**United Methodist Church of Merced
Sunday Worship April 18, 2021**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF PRAISE COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now
Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength
We gladly choose You now

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Oh come, just as you are before your God
Come, come, come, oh come

OPENING PRAYER

REV. VICTORIA SCHLINTZ

CALL TO WORSHIP

REV. ELLA LUNA-GARZA

We are witnesses,
to the love God has poured into us.
We are witnesses of God's love,
sharing it with each person we meet.
We are witnesses to everyone we encounter,
little children like us,
siblings in God's family.
When we are confused
Lord, give us peace.
When we are afraid
Lord, give us peace.
When we are lost in grief
Lord, give us peace.
O God, meet us in this room
And Lord, grant us peace! Amen.

AN INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

HOMILY AND NEW TESTAMENT READING

REV. ELLA LUNA-GARZA

LUKE 24:36-48

THE VOICE TRANSLATION

³⁶ At that very instant, as they're still telling the story, Jesus is there, standing among them!

Jesus: May you have peace!

(You might expect them to be overjoyed, but they weren't)

³⁷ They're startled and terrified; they think they're seeing a ghost.

Jesus: ³⁸ Why are you upset? Why are your hearts churning with questions? ³⁹ Look—look at My hands and My feet! See that it's Me! Come on; touch Me; see for yourselves. A ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you can see that I have!

[⁴⁰ Then He shows them His hands and His feet.][a]

⁴¹ Now their fear gives way to joy; but it seems too good to be true, and they're still unsure.

Jesus: Do you have anything here to eat?

⁴² They hand Him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and He takes it and eats it in front of them.

Jesus: ⁴⁴ I've been telling you this all along, that everything written about Me in the Hebrew Scriptures must be fulfilled—everything from the law of Moses to the prophets to the psalms.

⁴⁵ Then He opens their minds so they can comprehend the meaning of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Jesus: ⁴⁶ This is what the Scriptures said: that the promised Anointed One should suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ that in His name a radical change of thought and life should be preached, and that in His name the forgiveness of sins should be preached, beginning in Jerusalem and extending to all nations. ⁴⁸ You have witnessed the fulfillment of these things.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD A PRAYER FOR LUKE 24:39-43

GESTURES OF PEACE

PASTORAL PRAYER

REV. VICTORIA SCHLINTZ

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. Lead us

not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

WE BELIEVE

In this time of desperation
When all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation
We believe, we believe

In this broken generation
When all is dark, You help us see
There is only one salvation
We believe, we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's comin' back again, we believe

So, let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
And in our weakness and temptations
We believe, we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's comin' back again

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now, let love invade
Let the church live loud, our God we'll say
We believe, we believe
And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the power of God, has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe, we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's comin' back
He's comin' back again

He's comin' back again
We believe
We believe

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

SONG OF PRAISE YOUR GRACE IS ENOUGH

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, oh God

Your grace is enough

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice, God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me
Yeah, Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Yeah, Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me
Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me, for me