

# WORSHIP SERVICE JULY 4, 2021

Worship Leaders: Rev. Effie McAvoy, Associate Minister Sandy Knapp,  
Jay O'Connor Music Leader: Rob Bower  
Ushers: Carol Leith, Val O'Connor, Bob Horton

**Welcome**  
**Announcements**

**PRELUDE** "America the beautiful"

## OPENING PRAYER

Friends in Christ, God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. Loving our neighbors as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world. Move us to praise your gracious will, for in Christ Jesus you have saved us from the deeds of death and opened for us the hidden ways of your love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

By: Vanderbilt Divinity Library

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT

**MUSIC** "The Summons" FWS #2130

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH

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## DOXOLOGY

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## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, these gifts are not payment for services rendered. These aren't our dues necessary for us to belong to this church. We know you made us with a purpose, and so now we give ... on purpose, freely offering to you the best of who we are. Continue to work out your purpose in us. Make us your hands, outstretched, on purpose. Amen.

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Eye on a Sparrow"

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Jonah 3**

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish." When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

### **Mark 6: 1-6**

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

**THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD-THANKS BE TO GOD**

## **SERMON**

**"When Asked"**  
Rev. Effie McAvoy

### **The Great Thanksgiving!**

The Liberating God be with you!!

**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts with joy!!

**We lift them up to God!!**

Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!! It is right to give our thanks and praise!! It is right, and a good and holy thing! to give our praise to you this day,! Liberator of all Humankind.! You unleashed your creative power! and a world blossomed.! You bestowed upon every living thing! life and

breath, color and movement.! No matter how many battles we wage! within and between ourselves and against you,! your promise, vision and gift of peace and abundance continues.! And so we lift up our voices in celebration of You!!

**Holy, holy, holy are You!!**

We join all the prophets and saints!!

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory!!**

We join the parade of justice!!

**Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!!**

We add our cries and exclamations!!

**Hosanna in the highest!!**

**All: Freedom, O freedom! O freedom, freedom is coming,! O yes I know...! Yes, I know, O yes I know! O yes I know, freedom is coming! O yes I know!!**

Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus.! To those who were imprisoned ! by status, law, illness, poverty, gender, age, disease,! he said, "your belief has set you free. You are a child of God." !!

He invited disciples, friends and strangers alike to his tables.! He proclaimed God's grace to all with whom he broke bread.!

He proclaimed God's love to all with whom he shared the cup.! ! And he told us to remember: ! freedom has come, ! and freedom is coming!!

He proclaimed God's love to all with whom he shared the cup.! ! And he told us to remember: ! freedom has come, ! and freedom is coming!!

**All:Freedom, O freedom! O freedom, freedom is coming,! O yes I know...! Yes, I know, O yes I know! O yes I know, freedom is coming! O yes I know!!**

Holy Spirit, transform this meal and transform this body! so that we might be free to love without condition,! invite without hesitance, ! go without reservation! and proclaim your freedom to all the world!! Let the people say, "Amen!"

**All:Freedom, O freedom! O freedom, freedom is coming,! O yes I know...! Yes, I know, O yes I know! O yes I know, freedom is coming! O yes I know!**

## **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. 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, the power, and the glory now and forever. Amen.**

**MUSIC**      "We've A Story To Tell The Nations"      UMH 569

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

