

Cross Roads UMC Worship Guide
May 22, 2022 @ 10 AM
6th Sunday of Easter | Heritage Sunday

Gathering Music: *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Welcome

A Song of Praise

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,

O sister moon with silver gleam!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All ye who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Call to Worship:

Called to be branches in Christ's body,
we yearn to be connected to the vine.

Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to
God's creatures,

we search for places to plant the seeds of faith.

Called to be growing with God in the midst of this
world's painful questions,

we seek God's nurturing presence.

Opening Prayer (unison):

God, we gather this morning in your steadfast love,
to sing your praise and bear witness to your grace.
We come hungry, thirsty, and longing for clarity.
Meet us in this moment, and transform us by your
love. Amen.

A Time for Children with Diane Varnum

This, this is where children belong.
Welcomed as part of our worship and song.
Hearing God's Word, sharing love all along.
This is where children belong.

Worship Team Anthem: *Yahweh with He Lives*

Prayers of the People

A Time of Giving

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

A Song of Preparation

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth,
or the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies;

***Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light; **[Refrain]**

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight; **[Refrain]**

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild; **[Refrain]**

For thy church, that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love; **[Refrain]**

For thyself, best Gift Divine,
to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth, and joy in heaven: **[Refrain]**

Scripture: Mark 4:26-34 [NRSV]

The Parable of the Growing Seed

²⁶ He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come.”

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

The Use of Parables

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This Is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message: Beauty In the Small Things

A Song of Invitation

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Thou art the potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Search me and try me, Savior today!

Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me I pray!

Power, all power, surely is thine!

Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord!

Have thine own way!

Hold o'er my being absolute sway.

Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see

Christ only, always, living in me!

The Blessing with *The Benediction*:

The Lord bless you and keep you
make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord turn His face toward you
and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude