

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

875 Route 101 Hwy. Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1 Phone: 506-459-3313
Minister: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div, D.Min Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

March 29nd, 2020 11 am
JESUS' LAST WEEK: Lent V: In The Garden Of Gethsemane

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this sacred morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in friendship with its people. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

I'm glad you love it here, but at some point, I will disappoint you or the church will let you down. Please decide on this side of that happening if, after it happens, you will still stick around. Because if you leave, you will miss the way that God's grace comes in and fills in the cracks of our brokenness. And it's too beautiful to miss. Don't miss it.

Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber

THE GATHERING

*Please rise in body or in spirit for sections marked with an asterisk.

*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

*Introit: Don't Be Afraid, (#90 MV)

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
My love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
and I have promised, promised to be always near.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!
People: And also with you!
Leader: Let us worship together!

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Our Lenten journey continues, O God: The last week of Jesus' life, when time stood still,

People: When events rushed by, out of control.

Leader: The more they praised his power,

People: The more they feared his power

Leader: The more they lifted up his name,

People: The more they sought to crush him.

Leader: And still the story calls us, O God, and so we follow, into the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus asked his friends to pray, saying:

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, the power and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

T H E W O R D O F G O D

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 14: 32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.'

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'

Then he came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, ‘Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’

And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.

He came a third time and said to them, ‘Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?

Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going.

SERMON: *Jesus in Gethsemane: The Garden of Disappointment*

Solo: Moon Joyce: *Abide*

Carrie Newcomer/Parker Palmer

THE LENTEN PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#400 VU Lord, Listen To Your Children

1. We give thanks for health care providers, for clerks and cleaners and truckers and delivery drivers, for repair people and for (Name someone, or some group of people, for whom we give thanks to God in this time).

2. We pray for those who are most vulnerable to the effects of this virus, for the homeless, for those for whom their house is not a safe place, for those without a way to get home from other countries, and for(Name someone, or some group of people, in particular need or risk)

3. We pray for ourselves, and the stress we feel, the loneliness, the financial worry, and for(Name some struggle you are having this week, that you pray God come close and journey with you through.)

4. God, grant us opportunities to reach out to our community and be a support to someone in need, help me to (Name something we can be doing, or are doing, to be part of God working in our community).

5. Thank you for the honesty, the vulnerability and the grace, that Jesus showed in the garden.

We pray for those around us who are so full of grace, who are so loving and forgiving when we fail them, or when society fails them: for the patience of a clerk who was yelled at by a frustrated customer; for hospital staff, gowned and masked, who smile at us with their eyes and still laugh, even when they carry so much fear; and for(Name someone, or some group of people, who came to mind as you read the scripture and reflection, who are so kind, so loving, even in these most trying times.)

This, and all our prayers we offer, in the name, and in the way of Jesus, AMEN.

#400 VU Lord, Listen To Your Children

***THE LITANY OF THE DIMINISHING LIGHT**

Leader: Jesus' death was a long time coming. Between those who were out to get him, and those who didn't get him, he was still alone, even among throngs of adoring fans.

People: How much courage must it have taken for Jesus to stay the course? How many times would his friends let him down?

Leader: How many times would he forgive?

[The fourth purple candle is snuffed]

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: Even from the cross, you call us to return to you.

Even from the cross, you offer us forgiveness, a chance to start again.

Even from the cross, you make room for us to stand.

Even from the cross.

ALL SING (VU. 144, adapted):

Were you there, when he went alone to pray? (Were you there?)

Were you there, when he went alone to pray?

**Oh-oh-oh-oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there, when he went alone to pray? (Were you there?)**