

Worship Bulletin for September 13th, 2020

15th Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to GCUMC's Online Worship!

You are invited to share in this worship experience while watching the worship video that will premiere at 11am this Sunday on our Guilford College UMC YouTube Channel,

[\(CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO GCUMC YOUTUBE CHANNEL\)](#)

and that will also be available on our website for any-time viewing beginning at 8:45am on Sunday morning

[\(CLICK HERE FOR THE WORSHIP VIDEO ON GCUMC'S WEBSITE\)](#)

Whenever and however you watch, we hope you will actively participate in the service by following the bulletin below, and by joining in the prayers, responses, and songs. To assist with this, you might want to print out this liturgy so that you can follow along as you watch on your computer, or perhaps you might read this liturgy on your phone while watching the service on a different device.

Let us worship God together: Praise the Lord!

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP: "I Shall Not Want"

GCUMC Adult Choir

GREETING AND WELCOME

Rev. Susan Suarez Webster

OFFERING GOD OUR PRAISES

+PRAYERS + GIFTS

OPENING HYMN: "Be Still My Soul"

United Methodist Hymnal #534

Be still, my soul, The Lord is on thy side

Bear patiently, the cross of grief or pain

Leave to thy God, to order and provide
In every change, He faithful will remain
Be still, my soul, thy best thy heavenly friend
Through thorny ways, leads to a joyful end

Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still, my soul, the waves and wind still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

In You I rest, in You I found my hope
In You I trust, You never let me go
I place my life within Your hands alone
Be still, my soul

Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment, grief and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed, we shall meet at last

In You I rest, in You I found my hope
In You I trust, You never let me go
I place my life within Your hands alone
Be still, my soul

In You I rest, in You I found my hope
In You I trust, You never let me go
I place my life within Your hands alone
Be still, my soul
Be still, my soul
Be still, my soul

OPENING PRAYER

Led and Offered by Michelle Waldron

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Donna Ford (with Jordan)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Susan Suarez Webster

OFFERING OUR PRAISES AND FINANCIAL GIFTS

(Thank you for remembering our church and its ministries in the offerings that you make to God. You may mail your gift to Guilford College UMC at 1205 Fleming Road, Greensboro, NC, 27410, or may drop it off in our secure lockbox outside of our church office. To give to the church or to our community assistance funds online, please visit the secure online giving link at our church website by clicking here:

[GCUMC ONLINE GIVING](#))

LISTENING TO THE WORD

INTRODUCTION TO SERMON SERIES & SCRIPTURE: "Back to (Disciple) School: The Sermon on the Mount"

Rev. Jeremy Troxler

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 5: 17-37 (NRSV)

Read by Mark Townsend

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets;
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away,
not one letter, not one stroke of a letter,
will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments,
and teaches others to do the same,

will be called least in the kingdom of heaven;

but whoever does them and teaches them

will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds
that of the scribes and Pharisees,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times,
‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’

But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister,
you will be liable to judgment;

and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council;

and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire.

So when you are offering your gift at the altar,
if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,
leave your gift there before the altar and go;
first be reconciled to your brother or sister,
and then come and offer your gift.
Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court
with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge,
and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.
Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’
But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away;
it is better for you to lose one of your members
than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.
And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away;
it is better for you to lose one of your members
than for your whole body to go into hell.

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife,
let him give her a certificate of divorce.’
But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife,
except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery;
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times,
‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’
But I say to you, Do not swear at all,
either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
or by the earth, for it is his footstool,
or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.
And do not swear by your head,
for you cannot make one hair white or black.
Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’;
anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

This is the Word of God, for us, the People of God. **Thanks be to God!**

SONG OF PRAISE: "The Heart of Worship" Sung by Wes Gullett

When the music fades
All is stripped away

And I simply come
Longing just to bring
Something that's of worth
That will bless your heart

I'll bring you more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what you have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus

King of endless worth
No one could express
How much you deserve
Though I'm weak and poor
All I have is yours
Every single breath

I'll bring you more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what you have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus
I'm sorry, lord, for the thing I've made it
And it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
And it's all about you,
It's all about you, Jesus

SERMON MESSAGE:

"The More Beautiful Song"

Rev. Jeremy Troxler

RESPONSE TO THE WORD
AND SENDING FORTH

SENDING SONG: "Lord I Want To Be a Christian"

UM Hymnal #405

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

NEXT STEPS AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jeremy Troxler

CHORAL BENEDICTION

"The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up the light of His countenance upon you,

and give you peace. Amen"

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OPPORTUNITIES
TO GATHER, SERVE, AND GROW TOGETHER

***HEALTHY DISTANCED SUNDAY OUTDOOR WORSHIP CONTINUES AT 8:45AM and 6:30PM (Please note time change)-** All are welcome: bring a chair, bring a mask, stay six feet apart, and worship God together

***WEDNESDAY NIGHT (TAKE)OUT BEGINS THIS WEEK!** Orders must be placed by noon on Monday. \$5 per meal, without drink. Pickup is available 5:30-6:30pm on Wednesday- deliveries can also be made for those who have need. Consider eating with others on the back field. To place your order, please click below or call the church office at 336-292-5833 on Monday by noon

[TO ORDER WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKE OUT, PLEASE CLICK HERE](#)

***WEDNESDAY NOON PRAYER IN THE SANCTUARY** You are invited to join our masked prayers for mid-day prayer at noon on Wednesday in the sanctuary. Feel free to come and pray silently: no spiritually shy Methodists will be forced to pray aloud :)

***SANCTUARY OPEN FOR PRAYER BEGINNING AT 9AM THURSDAY -** Congregation members are welcome to come and pray in the sanctuary for Scott Allen during his cancer surgery, as well as for others on our prayer list.

***DRIVE UP HOLY COMMUNION - THIS FRIDAY FROM 11:00-11:30AM UNDER THE FRONT PORTICO OF THE CHURCH -** You are invited to drive up beneath the awning and Pastor Jeremy and Pastor Susan (both wearing masks) will share in a time of prayer with you and offer pre-packed Holy Communion elements, without you having to leave your car.

***THANK YOU FOR FILLING OUT THE GCUMC NEXT STEPS CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY -** We've had a great response: almost 200 of you have shared your thoughts with us! Our church leaders will be reviewing your responses at our Council meeting this week and then we will update you on our next steps as a congregation.

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CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Among those we are praying for:

GRIEVING THE RECENT DEATH OF A LOVED ONE

The Family of Jim Wilson

Lisa Kobrin and Family (death of father)

Family of Dallas Hanover

SUSTAINING PRAYERS

Laura Tew (hospice care)

Will Peabody

Terri and Allen Cheek

Rickey Vaughn (release from prison and recent fall)

Betty Kirkman

Chris Blyshak

Adrian and Jeudy and Baby (young couple who just had a child)

SUFFERING FROM CANCER

Doug Coley (bone marrow transplant in October)

Scott Allen (upcoming cancer surgery on Sept. 17th)

Nick Lubchenko (stem cell transplant)

Corey Marion (cancer treatments)

John Hodges (cancer treatments and test results)

Gene Briggs (Carol Ingram's brother)

Wenken Ling Bowen (George Bowen's sister-in-law)

Marvin Hammond (friend of Pat Browne)

RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS OR INJURY OR SURGERY

Denise LeHeup (broken wrist)

Debbie Hancock (heart ablation)

Samantha Gullett (gallbladder surgery)

Wes Gullett (gallbladder surgery)

Helen Stone (knee replacement)

Faith McKinney (friend of Pat Browne - car accident)

Gaylia Miazza (Gloria Brown's mother - heart afib)

Pat Gunn (recovering from knee surgery)

Mary Jane Gordon (recovering from internal bleeding)

Ben Lepko

Gwen Parker (Myra Andress's mom - leg amputation)

Patty Elkins (kidney issues)

Diane Derrick (recovering from knee surgery);

Tommy Waynick (shoulder surgery)
Bobbi Peabody (recovering from knee surgery)
John Hanner (leg)
Helen Blyshak (recovering from infection)

UPCOMING TEST RESULTS OR SURGERY

Marion McNeal (knee surgery Sept. 17th)
Michael Eagle (upcoming surgery for aneurysm near heart)

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

Our Confirmands (Naomi, Sophia, Katie, Hannah, Taylor, Alex Ethan, Ada)
Elizabeth and David Gamble + Palmer and Sophia Rae
(missionary service at U of Montana)
Ben Lasley (missionary service in Philadelphia)
Rev. Susan Suarez Webster and Tim Webster in their transitions
Randy Wall as GCUMC's new Youth and College Ministries Director
For our Preschool Director, Teachers, Students, and Families
For our ministry partners in Kenya
for a cure and vaccine for COVID-19
for all law enforcement officers
for peace, justice, an end to racism,
and true inter-racial beloved community in our church and nation
for all teachers, educators, families and children
amid the challenges of school reopening
Survivors of Hurricane Laura

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION AND JOURNEY GROUP DISCUSSION

(Choose any which most interest or speak to you)

1. What's one thing from the sermon message that resonated with you? Why? What's one thing you still have questions about?
2. Do you think it's more important for non-Christians to know what Christians are for or what we are against? Which do you feel non-Christians do actually know more about? Do you think this should be different? How might it become different?
3. In what way is demeaning another person not all that different from the commandment against murder? What do they have in common? How does one

lead to the other? When and why are you most tempted to call another person a "fool"?

4. What do you think would happen if people actually did what Jesus said, and, if they had hurt another person, left worship to go apologize and to reconcile? How difficult would this be for you? Why doesn't this happen more often?

5. Why do you think Jesus equates looking at another person with lust with adultery? What do you think Jesus is trying to communicate about the nature of lust in the Sermon on the Mount? How have you found this true in your own experiences? Why do you think this message is so hard for so many to hear today?

6. What is your response to the preacher's statement that, in talking about Gehenna, Jesus may be talking more about situations in this life than in the after-life? In what ways is "hell" or "gehenna" something experienced in this earth?