



“Vessel” by Erik Halvorson, who teaches glass at Hartwick College  
On loan from Phil and Honey Young

“Treasure”

*First Sunday in Lent*

February 21, 2021

8:15 & 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

“Christe du Lamm Gottes”  
*BWV 619*

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

**Threshold**

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

*Pastor: (the threshold continues)*

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

**Prayer of Confession**

*Pastor: Call to Confession*

*Let us pray:*

**Creator God, we are bodies fashioned by your hand in your own image,  
shapes and colors of diverse and immense beauty.  
And yet too often we have ignored the sacred nature of our physical lives.  
The Holy Vessels you have fashioned are tired and suffering,  
ravaged by months of disrupted rhythms and ailment.  
Our fragility has come into full view and we are frightened.  
We cannot fathom the proportions of loss and so we look away,  
sometimes even from our own needs.**

**Help us, Healer.  
Show us our strength.  
Forgive our inertia.  
Move us to move  
one step at a time toward greater care.**

In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

*Silence*

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

### **Assurance**

#### **Peace**

*I invite you to imagine the warmth that surrounds you...and seeing it spread like the rising sun, let it expand to all the world. Let this be our peace.*

#### **Amen.**

*The peace of Christ is with you.*

**And also with you.**

\*Hymn

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

#### *Refrain*

Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1. You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

*Refrain*

2. In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love.

*Refrain*

3. Give us strength to love each other,  
ev’ry sibling, sister, brother,  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

*Refrain*

4. You who know each through and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

*Refrain*

### **Time for Children**

#### **Contemporary Words**

True wisdom is like an ocean;  
the deeper you go the greater the treasures you’ll find.  
— Matshona Dhliwayo

Bad things do happen; how I respond to them  
defines my character and the quality of my life.  
I can choose to sit in perpetual sadness,  
immobilized by the gravity of my loss,

or I can choose to rise from the pain and  
treasure the most precious gift I have - life itself.  
— Walter Anderson

Some people spend so much time hunting treasure  
that they fail to see it all around them.  
It's like sifting through gold to find the silt.  
— Richard Paul Evans

It is by going down into the abyss  
that we recover the treasures of life.  
Where you stumble, there lies your treasure.  
— Joseph Campbell

Where there is ruin, there is hope for a treasure.  
— Rumi

Musical Proclamation

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

arr. Georgiann H. Toole

*Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin.  
From earth-born passions set me free,  
and make me pure within.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray.  
Through darkness and perplexity  
point thou the heavenly way.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me,  
amid the battle's strife.  
In all my pain and misery  
be thou my health and life.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me,  
that, when this life is past,  
I may eternal brightness see,  
and share thy joy at last.*

An Ancient Word

Matthew 8: 1-4; 16-17

NRSV

When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, “He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.”

Sermon

“Entrusted With a Great Treasure”

Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell

Song of Preparation

“Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole” (*refrain only*)

**In your love, make us whole.  
May we rest in your compassion.  
Calm the lost, weary soul  
in the warmth of your love.  
May your peace fill our hearts.  
May we know the love of Jesus.**

**By your grace, you console.  
Make us holy, make us whole.**

### **Prayers of the People**

We pray this day for...

*each prayer will end, "In your mercy"; please respond, "Hear our prayer."*

**Prayer of Jesus: "Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, who are in heaven..."**

**In your love, make us whole.  
May we rest in your compassion.  
Calm the lost, weary soul  
in the warmth of your love.  
May your peace fill our hearts.  
May we know the love of Jesus.  
By your grace, you console.  
Make us holy, make us whole.**

### **Ritual Action for the Week**

\*Hymn #523

"Saranam, Saranam"

Punjabi

#### *Refrain*

Jesus, Savior, Lord, lo, to thee I fly:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam;  
thou the Rock, my refuge that's higher than I:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

1. In the midst of foes I cry to thee,  
from the ends of earth wherever I may be;  
my strength in helplessness, O answer me:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

#### *Refrain*

3. O that I my vows to thee may pay,  
and that by thy faithfulness to me each day  
may live, and on thy love my burdens lay:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

#### *Refrain*

2. In thy tent give me a dwelling place,  
and beneath thy wings may I find sheltering grace;  
O lift on me the sunshine of thy face:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

#### *Refrain*

4. Yesterday, today, fore'er the same,  
lo, the heritage of all who bear thy name;  
to ransom them from sin the Savior came:  
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

#### *Refrain*

### **Commission Blessing**

### **Threshold Into the World**

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

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Today we opened for in-person worship at the 10am service only. People who wish to attend must make a reservation. Reservations may be made by leaving a message at the church office: by phone, 607-432-4102 or by email, [secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org](mailto:secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org), or by signing up at our website, [www.firstumc-oneonta.org](http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org). Please include the number of worshippers in your party and your phone number. Your message will be recorded onto the reservation list up until Saturday evening.

Please wear a mask and enter through the Church Street door. The COVID questions will be asked and temperatures will be checked. Once inside, ushers will lead you to seating that will be at least 6 feet from any other household. There will be no singing, no child care, and no coffee hour. Thank you for respecting these restrictions for the health and safety of our community.

### PRAYER LIST – February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Focus Rehab: Bill Pharr (1445 Kemble Street, Room 207, Utica NY 13501)

Kathryn Roffe is at Fox Nursing Home for rehab (Room 318, 2 Norton Ave, Oneonta, NY 13820)

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please call the church office to talk to the secretary or leave her a message.

- Ramona Leavey asks for prayers for her family & friends
- Ramona Leavey’s friend Betty Fischer
- David and Tom Jones, Bhala Jones’ sons
- Ramona Leavey’s friend, Dawn Joy
- Janet & Debbie Card
- Dr. John Rioux
- Sharon McCarthy’s friend, Carolyn
- Bruce VonHoltz recovering from surgery
- Doug Fielder
- Brenda Wilkinson’s brother, Terry Potter, who has cancer
- Leslie Bauer’s mother, Karla Goss
- Mitchell Lewis, Adelaide Van Buren’s grand nephew
- Phil Young asks for prayers for his Aunt Helen Cowherd and his cousins Sam, Kim, and Kent on the death of his Uncle Murrel. They all live in Oklahoma.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: to *Jack Burgess* on February 21; *Liz Shannon & Kimberly More* on February 23; *Sharon Dettenrieder* on February 24; *Paul Catan* on February 25; *Heidi Buzzy, Joshua Grimm & Graham Wooden* on February 27.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: *Li Luo & Weian Wong* on February 22; *John & Kay Cronk* on February 24.

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK – February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

- TODAY            8:15 am Worship by live stream through Facebook  
 10:00 am Worship by live stream through Zoom — link by computer:  
<https://zoom.us/j/195736049>; or call on your phone: 1- 646-558- 8656  
 Meeting ID: 195 736 049. You will be admitted from the “waiting room”.  
 11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship via Zoom  
 1:00 pm Imagine No Racism class by Zoom
- MON. 2/22      10:00 am Book Group by Zoom-call Margaret Parish
- TUES. 2/23     10:00 am Staff meeting by Zoom  
 2:00 pm Discussion of book: *Right Here, Right Now* by Zoom (see note below)
- WED. 2/24      2:00 pm Imagine No Racism class by Zoom
- THURS. 2/25   10:00 am UMW Book Group by Zoom—call Sharry Strait-Carey  
 12:00 pm Lectio Divina by Zoom—contact Margaret Parish for link  
 7:00 pm Confirmation Class by Zoom
- FRI. 2/26
- SAT. 2/27      11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday’s Bread Hot Meal Program
- SUN. 2/28      8:15 am Worship by live stream through Facebook  
 10:00 am Worship by live stream through Zoom — link by computer:  
<https://zoom.us/j/195736049>; or call on your phone: 1- 646-558- 8656  
 Meeting ID: 195 736 049. You will be admitted from the “waiting room”.  
 11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship via Zoom  
 1:00 pm Imagine No Racism class by Zoom

Reader .....	Dottie Lawson
Choristers .....	Sanctuary Choir Members
Ministers .....	Every Member of First United Methodist
Upper NY Area Bishop.....	Rev. Mark J. Webb
Oneonta District Superintendent.....	Rev. Nancy Adams
Oneonta District Associate .....	Rev. George Gallandorm
Ordained Minister .....	Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell
Co-Lay Leaders.....	Gail Niles & Peter Paluch
Director of Music Ministries.....	John Jurgensen
Business & Facilities Manager .....	Jeff Gardner
Sexton .....	Randall Wilson
Secretary .....	Leslie Bauer
Volunteer Caretaker .....	Christopher Brashear
Child Care .....	Keshia Genzardi
Church Address.....	66 Chestnut Street, Oneonta, NY 13820
Church Office Phone.....	(607) 432-4102
Church email .....	secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org
Pastor Marti’s email.....	pastor@firstumc-oneonta.org
Pastor Marti’s cell phone .....	(315) 569-9156
Church web page.....	<a href="http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org">http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org</a>

Thanks to the persistence and technical ingenuity of Randall Wilson, we can now watch our Sunday Service on our YouTube channel (go to YouTube and search “FUMC Oneonta”). It will be ready to watch at about 11:30 am each Sunday. After you watch, please hit the subscribe button!

**From the Green Team:** You didn’t ask for it. You don’t want it. Now, you can stop it. Junk mail is not only annoying to you, but it also requires paper, which means trees lose their lives, which ultimately affects the health of the planet. Go to [ecocycle.org](http://ecocycle.org) for how to save yourself and lots of trees. While you are on the site, watch the 7-minute video “Zero Waste Climate Solution.” (Creation Justice) from the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement

### Lent Events

- **Healing Physically:** Meet together to exercise (online or socially- distanced, of course), getting the blood and joy flowing. Pastor Marti will be “walking” the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage through a program that allows groups of people to do a challenge together; or, you may participate individually if you already have your own exercise routine. Text or call Pastor Marti at 315-569-9156 to join a walking group. Cut and paste this link into your browser to find out more:  
<https://www.theconqueror.events/camino/>
- **Integrated Healing:** “Mindfulness” has been around for a long time in history, but is becoming more of a common phenomenon in recently in mainstream culture. Professor of Church History and Spirituality, Amy Oden, describes it this way in her highly-acclaimed book, *Right Here, Right Now*: “Many Christians practice mindfulness outside of church and believe it does not belong to our faith tradition. This book reveals the Christian roots of mindfulness and the actual practices that, when reclaimed, deepen the life of faith and the power of our mission of love in the world.” Margaret Parish and Pastor Marti will be leading a discussion of this book, 2 -3:30 pm Tuesdays over Zoom, starting on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Participants will need access to the book. Please order it on Amazon, or from Cokesbury.com. Or, if you would prefer, you may call or text Margaret Parish at 607-435-4001 or email her at [margparish@yahoo.com](mailto:margparish@yahoo.com), and she will order your copy of the book and deliver it to you (if you live in town.)**

### Please Pick Up your Sea Glass for Lent!

Our Lenten worship series from Dr. Marcia McFee of Worship Design Studio is “Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery,” beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. As many of you know who have enjoyed Marcia’s liturgical designs in the past, she often invites participants to hold sacred objects in their hands, to enable a more tactile, interactive worship experience.

This season, the theme image is sea glass. Maybe some of you have enjoyed walking on a beach sometime in the past, picking up glass that has been tumbled around by the waves and the sand, its sharp edges worn away to become smooth and beautiful. In order for you to experience our Lenten series completely, we invite you to have a few pieces of sea glass to hold. If you will be worshipping at home, please help yourselves to a small bag of sea glass from the bin on Rev. Marti’s porch, 41 Ford Avenue. (Please do not park in the driveway and pay attention to alternate side of the street parking signs.) We hope to open for in-person worship starting at 10 am on February 21<sup>st</sup>, and if we do, you will be able to pick up your sea glass then. But if you know you will be worshipping from home regardless, please stop by 41 Ford and pick up your sea glass.

Yours for a holy, healing Lent,  
FUMC Worship Team

**A message from the COVID Team:** We know that acquiring a COVID vaccine is not easy and are hoping it will become easier as more vaccine become available.

Suggestions if you do not wish or don't have access to a computer are

1. Call the NYS COVID vaccine hotline at 1-833-697-4829 and someone will assist you to schedule a vaccine appointment at one of the large state sites, Binghamton, Albany, Syracuse, etc. Continue to call back if you don't like the appointment times. New appointments open up frequently.
2. Call 211 and United Way will assist you to find an appointment.
3. Call 1-866-924-9377 for Walgreen Drug stores to find an appointment.
4. Call the Rite Aid Drug store at 400 Chestnut St., Oneonta, 432-3200 and ask for the pharmacy and to be put on a list for the vaccine.
5. Call the Office of Aging if you are 60+ years old at 432-9041. They can offer some information and limited transportation assistance.
6. Call Get There at 1-855-373-4040. This government-funded organization can offer transportation to vaccine sites.

If you are able to use a computer

1. Check the local Bassett Hospital sites on this web page.
2. <https://www.bassett.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>.
3. Check Otsego County health Department site for links to state clinics and pharmacy clinics.
4. [https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/d-m/health\\_department/covid-19\\_vaccination\\_clinics.php](https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/d-m/health_department/covid-19_vaccination_clinics.php)
5. Sign up for an account at Walgreens to schedule a vaccine appointment ( if available).
6. [https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19?ban=covid\\_vaccine\\_landing\\_schedule](https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19?ban=covid_vaccine_landing_schedule)

We can all agree on how frustrating this process can be and if we can help please contact any one of us. We will try to assist if we can and help find transportation to the vaccine sites.

Karen Anderson 437-1757 or [anderson.karen@gmail.com](mailto:anderson.karen@gmail.com)

Adelaide and Bruce Vanburen 435-8575 or [vanburen.bruce@gmail.com](mailto:vanburen.bruce@gmail.com)

Sharry Strait-Carey 434-5234 or [sharrysc9@hotmail.com](mailto:sharrysc9@hotmail.com)

Marty Becker 432-4917 or [marty.vlb@gmail.com](mailto:marty.vlb@gmail.com)