

First United Methodist Church of Elgin

February 07, 2021

Prelude

Dr. Mindy Pugh

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

L. Smith

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

Announcements

Cindy Palm, Lay Servant

Call to Worship

Cindy Palm, Lay Servant

Come to the mountain of the Great I Am!

Come to the mountain and be transformed!

Come to the mountain to see God’s glory!

Come, oh faithful ones, come!

Opening Hymn

“We’ll Understand It Better By and By”

Songs of Zion #55

Pastor Alisa Niles*, Debbie Potts, and Matthew Weber

Accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh

Prayer

Cindy Palm, Lay Servant

God of unity, we come before you dismayed at our own divisions. We have struggled as your church to live in unity; but we divided along all the fault lines of our societies. The ruptures in our families, among friends, among denominations, among nations are wide and deep. When we attempt to get on the same page, we build taller walls and dig deeper trenches. God, help us! We know that Christ is not divided. You have called us to proclaim the Gospel, but we even fight about what that is. Help us, God! Help us to give up our power and privileges. Help us to want the unity you share, for you are one; in you, there is no division. Help us to embrace and to live the foolishness of a life emptied of power and give to service, in the likeness of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Help us to walk in salvation. We pray this in the name of your Son Jesus, who taught us 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Offertory

Dr. Mindy Pugh

“The Swan”

C. Saint-Saens

Ways to Give:

Mail your tithes and offerings to:
First UMC Elgin
216 E. Highland Ave.
Elgin IL 60120

Give Online:
Visit the Online Giving page on the First
UMC Elgin website @ fumcelgin.org/give
or visit paypal.me/fumcelgin

Sermon Text

Cindy Palm, Lay Servant

Isaiah 40:21-31 (NIV)

²¹Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
Has it not been told to you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?
²²He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.
²³He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of the this world to nothing.
²⁴No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.
²⁵“To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one
and calls forth each of them by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.

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Sermon Text continued

Cindy Palm, Lay Servant

Isaiah 40:21-31 (MSG)

²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob?
Why do you say, Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord;
my cause is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.
²⁹He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.
³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
³¹but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Meditation

Pastor Alisa Niles*

“I Love the Lord”

Zion Still Sings #176

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

“The Call to Pay Attention”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

see insert

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Closing Hymn

“Lift Every Voice”

United Methodist Hymnal #519

Pastor Alisa Niles*, Debbie Potts, and Matthew Weber

Accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh

Sending Forth

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

Response

Debbie Potts

“As We Go”

Worship & Song #3183

Postlude

Dr. Mindy Pugh

“Prelude and Fugue in B Flat Major”

J. S. Bach

*Pastor Alisa Niles will join us each Sunday in February as part of our celebration of Black History Month. Pastor Niles shares her faith through the New Wave of Glory Ministries organization.



"There is a quiet confidence and a deep sort of gladness that I have helped many people understand what faith is, to do social action, political action. I've helped many people understand nonviolent struggle. And that, in turn, has had great ramifications."

Rev. James Lawson

Methodist Missionary to India
Pastor—Centenary Methodist, Memphis
Pastor—Holman UMC, Los Angeles

Rev. James Lawson was born in 1928 and received his Methodist Ministry license in 1947 during his senior year of high school. He was instrumental in the civil rights movement, serving alongside Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and being championed as the “Architect of the Non-Violence Movement” by Dr. King. Rev. Lawson organized student sit-ins, marches, protests, and the historic freedom rides of the 1960s. Today, he continues to fight for equal rights for all.



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient people and we have not done your will. We have broken your law and rebelled against your love. Forgive us, we pray, free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your word and Holy Spirit.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen

And now, with the confidence of children, let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallow 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 power, and the kingdom, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Bread and Cup

Because there is one loaf, we who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

02.07.2021

Re-Opening Announcement

Kane County has returned to Phase 4 guidelines, which means that starting next Sunday, February 14, First UMC Elgin will resume in-person worship. All services will be socially distanced, and masks are required. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are limited to a total of 50 persons in the building. Registration is required for each person in your family who plans to attend. Please visit fumcelgin.org and click on the "Save Your Seat" picture or call the church office to register.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

First UMC Elgin will be holding a socially distanced Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, February 17, at 7:00 pm. If you would like to attend the service, please register online at fumcelgin.org. If you would prefer to worship from home, containers of ashes are available. Please contact Amy in the church office to request a delivery of the ashes to your home.

Black History Month

In February, First UMC Elgin will be celebrating Black History Month. Visit the church website and click on the Black History Month photo to explore the rich history of African Americans within the United Methodist Church and throughout the history of the United States.

Daily Devotional

Each year, Pastor Felicia and her husband, Adrian, use the Upper Room Disciplines book as a Daily Devotional. They are hoping that you will join them in their Daily prayers. Each morning you will receive an email from the church with the recommended daily Bible reading, a brief story, and a short prayer. These Daily Devotions will also be shared on the First UMC Elgin website under the LEARN tab. Copies of the book are available in paperback or e-book by visiting upperroombooks.com if you would prefer to follow along that way.

Radio Sponsorship

Dates are still available to sponsor the First UMC Elgin broadcast on WRMN 1410AM/96.7FM from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Weekly sponsorship is \$100.00. Sign-up and make payments online @ fumcelgin.org

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Joys and Concerns

Joys and Concerns can be submitted via the First UMC Elgin website by visiting fumcelgin.org or sending an email to Amy in the church office. Your prayer requests will be shared with the congregation via email and during the Sunday morning worship service.

Weekly Prayer Call

Each Thursday at 12:00 pm, Pastor Felicia hosts a weekly Prayer Call via ZOOM. Take a few moments out of your busy week to slow down, pray, and share with your church family. Visit fumcelgin.org and click on the CARE tab for more information & the ZOOM link.