



## Welcome to Worship

Sunday, January 31, 2020 — 8:00 a.m.

What Have You to do With Us, Jesus?

*Making Disciples Who Make a Difference in Seward and*



## Follow Me

WORSHIP SERIES

### Words of Welcome and Announcements:

- All are welcome to weekly Bible study with Pastor Mary Kay on Thursday mornings! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. or from the comfort of home at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom.
- Our new zoom Sunday School for mixed ages of children will start in February! Leaders are working to get ready.
- Zoom Fellowship Time will begin soon after worship on Sundays. If you are willing to host these times of connection with one another, please let Pastor Mary Kay, Pastor Jo Ellen, or Wess know!
- We welcome Terri Abrams, our new Office/Finance Administrator! Terri will be in the Seward UMC office throughout the week, training, learning, and getting to know each of you. Pop by and say 'Hi!'.

**Prelude**

**Dylan Teut**

**Peace of Christ Blessing**

**Call to Worship:** *(Nancy C. Townley)*

**L:** Come to worship this day. Bring with you all your joys and sorrows.

**P:** **Jesus will offer hope.**

**L:** Come to worship this day believing in the power of God through Jesus Christ.

**P:** **Jesus will bring us healing.**

**L:** Come to worship this day feeling the presence of God.

**P:** **Jesus will teach us new ways to live. Amen.**

<sup>R</sup> Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in God's love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves God is love.

<sup>1,2</sup> Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great — is the Lord! Great — is the Lord!

<sup>3</sup> Great are you Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:  
Great — are you, Lord! Great — are you, Lord!

**Our Common Prayer** (*Will Willamon*)

Un-stop our ears, O God,  
that we may hear your Word proclaimed this day.  
Open our minds and hearts to be changed.  
Free us from the unclean spirits of worry, fear, destruction, and pride.  
Teach us, Lord, that we may follow you more faithfully. Amen.

**Children's Time**

**Pastor Mary Kay Totty**

**Scripture Lesson - Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then God replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of the other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak — that prophet shall die."

**Psalm 111**

**UMH 832**

<sup>R</sup> **Great are the works of the Lord,  
which abound to the ends of the earth.**

Praise the Lord.

**I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Great are the works of the Lord,  
studied by all who have pleasure in them.

**Full of honor and majesty are the works of the Lord  
whose righteousness endures for ever,**

Who has caused his wonderful works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and merciful.

**The Lord provides food for the faithful  
and is ever mindful of his covenant. (R)**

The Lord has shown his people the power of his works  
by giving them the heritage of the nations.

**The works of the Lord's hands are faithful and just;  
the precepts of the Lord are trustworthy;  
they are established for ever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

The Lord has sent redemptions to his people  
and has commanded his covenant for ever.  
Holy and wondrous is God's name!

**This fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
The praise of the Lord endures for ever. (R)**

### **Mark 1:21-28**

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."

But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, confusing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching — with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

### **Hymn**

Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit

**UMH 264**

<sup>1</sup> "Silence, frenzied, unclean spirit!"  
cried God's healing Holy One.

"Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it,  
flee as night before the sun."

At Christ's words the demon trembled,  
from it's victim madly rushed,  
while the crowd that was assembled  
stood in wonder, stunned and hushed.

<sup>2</sup> Lord, the demons are still thriving  
in the gray cells of the mind:  
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,  
twisted thoughts that grip and bind,  
doubts that stir the heart to panic,  
fears distorting reason's sight,  
guilt that makes our loving frantic,  
dreams that cloud the soul with fright.

<sup>3</sup> Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit in our mind and in our heart;  
speak your word that when we hear it, all our demons shall depart.  
Clear our thought and calm our feeling; still the fractured, warring soul.  
By the power of your healing make us faithful, true, and whole.

**Litany of Response - “O God We Long for Your Presence”**

*(inspired by Mark 1:21-28, Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel)*

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
what hopes do you bring to worship?

**We bring hope for health and wholeness.**

What afflictions do you bring to worship?

Physical pain?

**From sad and scary life situations.**

Mental pain?

**From dis-ease of many kinds.**

With all of these afflictions,

It’s a miracle that any of us have made it to worship this morning!

**But where else would we be?**

**We yearn to know God’s powerful love**

**And to know that wholeness is possible.**

In today’s gospel, a person with an “afflicting spirit” interrupts Jesus

**And Jesus free him.**

And where does the miracle of his story and our stories begin?

**When we bring all of who we are**

— hopeful, afflicted, bold —

**Into relationship with the Divine.**

Some come, let us enter this sanctuary with our whole selves

— hopeful afflicted and bold —

Come, let us worship!

**Prayer: Type in your joys/concerns or text to 402-810-8900.**

**Music for Prayer**

To Know You More

**TFWS 2161**

<sup>1</sup>To know you in all of your glory,  
to love you with all that I am.  
With all of my heart,  
Lord, this is my prayer.  
To know you more.

<sup>2</sup>To know you in all of your power,  
to trust you with all that I am.  
With all of my heart,  
Lord, this is my prayer.  
To know you more.

<sup>3</sup>To know you in all of your mercy,  
to serve you with all that I am.  
With all of my heart,  
Lord, this is my prayer.  
To know you more.

<sup>4</sup>To know you in all of your power,  
to trust you with all that I am.  
With all of my heart,  
Lord, this is my prayer.  
To know you more. To know you more.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord’s Prayer**

## Offering

We give generously of our time, talents, gifts, service, and witness.

*To make a gift in support of our continued ministry during the global pandemic, please place your offering in the box near the front door, or visit [sewardumc.org](http://sewardumc.org) and click on the 'donate' button.*

## Offertory

Dylan Teut

## Prayer of Dedication *(Mark 1:14-20)*

**God, help us to take responsibility for someone other than ourselves. Help us to walk with you, not alone, but in the company of others. Enable us to look at perfect strangers and, in your name, call them sisters and brothers. Give us the insight to see the needs of others as claims upon our lives. God, help us to take responsibility for someone other than ourselves. Amen.**

## Hymn

Wounded World that Cries for Healing

TFWS 2177

Wounded world that cries for healing here we hold each other's pain,  
wounded systems, bruised and bleeding bear the load, the scars of strain;  
dollars ration out compassion, hard decisions rule the day,  
Jesus of the healing Spirit, free us to another way!

Through our nation's spent frustration, through the corridors of stress  
may there move a kindlier wisdom all may feel, and all may bless;  
tax and tithe are for a purpose shared to shield the poor and weak;  
past the symptoms of our sickness let the voice of justice speak.

Honor those whose loving spirit nurses hope, restores and heals,  
towel and basin used in service like the Christ who comes and kneels;  
in the tending, in the mending may we see the right and fair,  
in our common quest for wholeness heal each other by our care.

## Benediction

Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm

## Postlude

Dylan Teut

## ***The People of God Go Forth to Serve***

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