



CELEBRATING
MOM

Sunday May 10, 2020

10:30 online worship

Heart of the Matter: No Trouble in My Heart
Celebrating the Women and Mothers in our Life



GUESTS, Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs

If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, pastorkris@unionucc.org

Our next new member information session will be held on September 13 and 20 You will be welcomed as members in worship on Sunday, September 27. If you are interested in attending classes for new members let us know and we'd be glad to send you more information. Please contact Pastor Kris with any questions.

We believe in extravagant welcome. We believe in God's inclusive love. We start worship with a greeting that reflects that welcome and love.

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and on faith's journey

ALL: you are welcome here.

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PRELUDE

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go
Albert L. Pace

George Matheson and



WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

L No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and faith's journey

C You are welcome here.

THE OPENING HYMN

BLACK HYMNAL #351 I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

1. I was there to hear your borne cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;

In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

**2. When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.**

**3. In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

LWe continue with our Easter Season because Easter isn't just one day. Today we hear Jesus' say "do not let your hearts be troubled." The early church knew that Christ went before them to prepare a place and so they prepared a place for each other in this way:

"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people." (Acts 2: 46-47a)

We create a "temple" of worship in our hearts that connects us across boundaries, distance and time. But as we share this worship, we will stay connected. At the "heart of the matter," we are connected through the Spirit that makes us one in love.

A Prayer

We are going to center our hearts as one to begin.
Let's take a deep breath together.
I invite you to place your hand on your heart and
let's lightly tap together in a slow heartbeat rhythm

Holy Living God,
Heartbeat of Creation,
help us to take this time to center on you,
for you made us,
you gave us life,
and you continue to be with us
every moment...
every breath...
every step.

Hear this assurance from God:
Be still, O heart, you're not alone,
your beat is shared with me.
Come now, and calm, and center here,
you're mine, secure and free.

Let's take another deep breath, making sure our shoulders
and any tension we feel in our bodies is letting go with the
breath. Let's take another one.

Let us pick up our heart stone, sometimes called a "worry
stone," and let our touch on its surface remind us that God's
touch is within us, between us, and around us.
As close and real as this object is in our hands right now,
is how close Love is to us always. Let us imagine letting go of
our worries for now into God's heart of love. We offer a
prayer song of letting go:

Into your care, we offer now,
our worries, fears and strife.
We turn to you and know you're near—
Your light, our love and life.

Let's light our candles now and set our heart worry stones
next to it.

SCRIPTURE

LThe Psalm today mentions something we have been using throughout this Easter Season—our rocks. God is described many times in the Bible as a rock—as something that is a solid foundation and a shelter in times of distress. Hear the trust of the writer even as hard times are upon them.

I take refuge in you, Lord.

Please never let me be put to shame.

Rescue me by your righteousness!

Listen closely to me!

Deliver me quickly;

 be a rock that protects me;

 be a strong fortress that saves me!

You are definitely my rock and my fortress.

Guide me and lead me for the sake of your good name!

Get me out of this net that's been set for me

 because you are my protective fortress.

I entrust my spirit into your hands;

 you, Lord, God of faithfulness—

 you have saved me.

My future is in your hands.

 Don't hand me over to my enemies,

 to all who are out to get me!

Shine your face on your servant;

 save me by your faithful love! - Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

LOur future is in the hands of Love, in the heart of God. Jesus, as God-in-the-flesh, helps us to know that we are in the house and family of God. He called God “Abba”—in intimate name that a child would call a Parent in the language Jesus spoke. God was not distant, but a Parent who loves tenderly, protects faithfully, and wants us to know intimately. Hear Jesus comfort the disciples, who are distressed at the thought of living life without him:

“Don't let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith in me as well. In God's house there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I

was going to prepare a place for you? I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I will come back to take you with me, that where I am there you may be as well. You know the way that leads to where I am going.”

Thomas replied, “But we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus told him, “I myself am the Way—I am Truth, and I am Life. No one comes to Abba God but through me. If you really knew me, you would know Abba God also. From this point on, you know Abba God and you have seen God.”

“Rabbi,” Phillip said, “show us Abba God, and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Phillip, and still you don’t know me? Whoever has seen me has seen Abba God. How can you say, ‘Show us your Abba’? Don’t you believe that I am in Abba God and God is in me? The words I speak are not spoken of myself; it is Abba God, living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God. Believe me that I am in God and God is in me, or else believe because of the works I do. The heart and truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me will do the works I do—and greater works besides. Why? Because I go to Abba God, and whatever you ask in my name I will do, so that God may be glorified in me. Anything you ask in my name I will do. - John 14: 1-14 (Inclusive Bible translation)

Jesus himself cried out to God from the Hebrew scriptures that were his holy texts, and what we read today, “into your hands I commit my spirit.” This is the kind of relationship with God that he wanted us to have. To be able to let go of our need to control the future, our anxiety about what is going to happen, which we cannot know right now, and let God comfort us. Jesus reminded his disciples, and he reminds us, to trust in God when our hearts are troubled. It is ok to be troubled, but we can also know that even while our minds

may be working overtime, our hearts can rest assured in God's love. Steadfast love is what God shows and what we are called to offer each other. In this way, we also are the presence of God, through Christ, so that others may know this comfort of the Divine One.

Children's Time with Kathy Bonsell

Music Offering

Hallelujah Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen
Children's Choir: **Lucas Bastidas, Connor Maxwell, Lucas Maxwell, Michael Micocci, Isabella Micocci, Raegan Minnich, Ashley Ritter, Emma Ritter, Pierce Ritter, Cael Vermeulen, Hunter Vermeulen, Ariel Turissini**
Directed and Accompanied by: **Jacob Roth**

A special thanks to Jacob Roth for arranging and recording our kids today.

SCRIPTURE AND MESSAGE

The Gospel John 2:1-12
Message: A Covid 19 Mother's Day Message
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Allan Kramer-Moyer

Pastor Allan served as one of our interim ministers in 2016-2018.
We are glad to welcome him back!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

"Worry Stone" or "Heart Stone" Invitation

1In the account of the resurrection in the Gospel of Matthew, after the stone is rolled away from the tomb, the angel sits on the stone and gives the women this message, "Don't be afraid." Throughout the Season of Easter, we invite you to use a "worry stone," which is a stone you carry about with you to rub when you are feeling anxious or worried. We encourage you to find a stone and paint or draw a heart on it. It will remind you of this angel's message which Jesus then repeats, "Do not be afraid."

**ALL: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

SIGNS OF LOVE

Please send us pictures of you and your friends or family with their hands in the heart position. We'd like to show them during a video to this song each week so that we can see each other, give thanks for each other, and pray for each other.

GOLD HYMNAL #677 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love St. Brendan's/Peter Scholtes

- 1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.**

CHORUS: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

- 2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.**

CHORUS

- 3. We Will work with each other, we will work side by side; We will work with each other, we will work side by side; And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.**

CHORUS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

MUSIC OFFERING

Wind Beneath My Wings Larry Henley and Jeff Silbar

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INVITATION TO THE EASTER SEASON SERIES

📍 Friends, you may not realize that Easter is not just a day. Easter is a season of eight Sundays that last from today until Pentecost Sunday, a time when we celebrate the Spirit of Christ in the church as the presence of Jesus' work ongoing in the world. During the Easter Season, we will continue to hear more about Jesus' message of what is truly the "heart of the matter" in our lives.

Please invite anyone that you really miss and wish was with you such as loved ones—families or friends— to join us on Sundays. We'll be gathering online as we have been, you can find us on our website, Facebook page, and youtube channel on Sundays at 10:30am. Or watch anytime after that during the week .

Benediction
(based on Psalm 16)

L As we close this time together, remember:
God is always with you. No matter what you face,
no matter what trials or hardships come your way,
God is right beside you, raising your very life from death,
guiding and directing your path.
So, acknowledge your fear and your worry
and know it is as true and holy as any feeling,
including joy and hope and love.
Take heart, my friends! This is the heart of the matter.
Let the people say, Amen!

HYMN

GOLD HYMNAL #5 Morning Has Broken

- 1. Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word**
- 2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dew fall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass**
- 3. Mine is the sunlight Mine is the morning
Born of the One Light Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day**

POSTLUDE

Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2 Johannes Brahms

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