

Generation to Generation

Worshiping God through the Ages

April 24 - May 22, 2022

*University Sunday:
Living For Today*

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell
May 8, 2022

Open in Prayer

Invite the Holy Spirit into your gathering, giving God praise for your community and this journey of discovery and connection.

Gather

Listen, Converse, Imagine

Matthew 6:19-21, 24-34

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

1. What do you recall about your faith journey when you were in your late teens-early 20's? What questions were you asking? What doubts did you have? How did your faith sustain you in that time?
2. We heard the testimonies of three of our university students (Bianca, Josh and Libby) in worship. How did you relate to their stories?
3. These students chose the Matthew 6 passage. Why is it an important message for the youth of today to hear? Why is it an important message for YOU to hear?

Respond

What commitment or action did the message inspire you to make or take?

Pray

Allow ample time to not only hear from one another how we can hold each other in our prayers during the coming week but also to pray together for God's grace to flow over each concern.

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Word to Clear Heads and Warm Hearts

Rev. Earl Palmer

May 1, 2022

Open in Prayer

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Gather

Listen, Converse, Imagine

Read together 2 Timothy 1:3-7

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

1. After a prolonged season of not being able to gather with one another, what has it been like for you to regather in Christian community? In what ways do you experience unbelief or doubt?
2. Who have been spiritual matriarchs or patriarchs in your life? How has their faith come to “live in” you?
3. How might the act of laying on hands—through blessing, prayer, compassionate care, etc.—“rekindle the gift of God” within us?

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Could It Be True?

Aeryn Seto Johnson
Candidate Under Care

April 24, 2022

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Gather

When Jesus breaks in, we're invited to know him for ourselves, receive new life in his Holy Spirit and be sent out as his people.

"Doubt is not a threat to faith: it's faith that has finally taken off its mask."

Cole Arthur Riley, @blackliturgies

- What impact did your Lenten journey have on your knowing of Jesus?
- Share about a time, perhaps recently, when you experienced doubt in your own journey of faith.

Listen, Converse, Imagine

Read together John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of

the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

1. When have you ever had a sense of the divine presence breaking in unexpectedly? What was that experience like for you? What impact did that in-breaking have on your relationship with Jesus?
2. In what ways do you experience unbelief or doubt?
3. Jesus tells the disciples, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Where are you currently being "sent out" in your life?

Respond

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