

Asbury United Methodist Church

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Worship Leader: Dixon Disu

Chancel: Jill Rowe

*Please rise in body or spirit

“Fill My House with Hoping”

Week 1

Music for Gathering “Morning Has Broken” Hanna Noh

Welcome and Asbury Mission Statement

We are Asbury! Abundantly thankful to God; Saved by Christ’s resurrection; Blessed by God; United by Christ’s love for each of us; Reaching out to our church family and our community; Yearning to tell the Good News to all by being Christ’s voice, hands, and feet in the world.

Announcements

A Call to Plenty

Leader: A miscalculation has occurred. The wedding guests have drunk all the wine before the party is over. At times life can feel like we’re “running out” of so much and scarcity is shutting down the party. In these moments, we are invited to turn to the currency and economy of Jesus. In this new worship series, we will be reminded that in Jesus’ economy, the true measure of abundance is fullness for the entire community, not just for some. Let us build the Kin-dom of God by drawing from jars of Hope, Purpose, Healing, Meaning, Vision, and Grace for all people.

“Abundance” (sing Together)

**God s abundance is for all,
no one is left outside,
kin-dom come, all people one
in trust and love abide.**

In this world of striving,
we feel the yearn to earn.

The world measures our worth in those earnings.

But Jesus had different ideas.

Where they perceived that things had run out and dripped dry,
he saw the possibility for transformation.

When we feel our own resources are lacking,
we can view our lives and practices again from the economy of Jesus.

Let us pray:

God of Abundance,
we come to you today, lifting to you our emptiness,
our longing, our hoping for a better world.

In the midst of our fear, remind us of your transforming and overflowing love
and the jars of plenty out of which we can live abundantly in service to all people,
especially those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit. Amen.

Opening Hymn/Song

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” UMH 89 VS. 1,2,4

The Peace

Leader: Just as our worth as humans is not dependent on the bottom line of our bank accounts, our relationships are not dependent upon the earning of favors and the limitations of *quid pro quo.*” The peace of Christ has no limits, and we get more just by giving it. So may jar-fulls of peace be with you today.

***People:* And also with you.**

Leader: You are invited to pass the peace among you,
remembering to pass it to those joining us remotely.

Choir Anthem “To God Be the Glory”

Gospel Lesson

John 2: 1-11

Reader: We begin our worship series with the iconic story of Jesus as the wedding guest you always want to invite—the one who saves the day when the wine runs out. In the economy of Jesus, there is always more than meets the eye as hope never runs dry. Just when we begin to expect the worst, Jesus reminds us that there is more good stuff in store. Hear this Word from the 2nd chapter of John:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it.

When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and

then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

This is a Word of God reminding us that we can never out-spend
the hope that fills the house.

Thanks be to God.

Songs of Illumination UMH#454 Open My Eyes, That I May See vs1
Open my eyes that I may see / glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Sermon “Fill My House with Hoping” Rev. Yohan Go

Prayers of the People
UMH 389 “Freely, Freely”

Leader: In the economy of Jesus, we are saved from the expense of a “this for that” accounting. We are freely given so much love that it overflows and surpasses our need. And so we come to God in prayer that we might give back from the surplus of that saving grace.

**Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live.**

Leader: Each week of this series, we will focus on naming the gifts of abundance we have received throughout the week, recognizing instances where we have witnessed the abundance of Christ at work in the world, and seeking the wisdom and strength to bring about greater abundance for all. During the pause between these petitions, you are invited to reflect on your observations and give thanks to God.

In this pause, O God, we ponder the many gifts you have given us.
Our gratitude seems never enough for the plenty you provide.
We call to mind the gifts of creation, of relationships, of sustenance.
In this pause, Christ Jesus, we ponder the ways your love is still at work in the world.
Our awe and wonder at the goodness of others is profound.
We call to mind acts of kindness, generosity, and selflessness.

In this pause, Holy Spirit, we come asking you for strength.
The temptation to live by the economics of not-enough is so strong in us.
We ask for revelation in our thinking and doing,
so that we might live with hope in the house.

Loving God, Christ Jesus, Holy Spirit,
we are yours.

We bring to you now the concerns of our day, of our communities,
knowing that already you are present, already you are working to bring about comfort
and healing.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Yohan Go

Lord's Prayer

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sing Together:

**Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live.**

Offering and Offering Prayer "Give Thanks" ~ Alice Pace

A Gift Presentation to Johnell and Cynthia Norton

Closing Hymn

"Take My Life and Let it Be" UMH 399 vs. 1,4,6

Benediction

The jars are full in the Kin-dom of God.
The house is full of the hope we need
and the hope we are called to give away.
We are transformed in the economy of Jesus,
bearing the witness of dividends of grace.
We have heard the call to invest our interest
in the transformation of our communities.
And so we go, doing likewise in the world,
with the help of God,
the guidance of Jesus,
and the power of the Holy Spirit.
Now and forever. Amen.

Announcements

1. The worship leader for Sunday, January 26th is Carl Bishop Jr.
2. Pray for those affected by the wildfires in California. You can support them through UMCOR. See the insert for details.

Birthdays

- 20th Cynthia Norton
22nd Sara Capasso, Dianne Pratt & Hanna Noh
23rd Jessica Whitney
24th Steve Capasso, Audra Drury & Doug Pearson

Flowers *The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dolores Rose Bonaccorsi and Edward J. Bonaccorsi in memory of their Birthdays by daughter Barbara, son-in-law Carl, and grand daughters Aubrey, Danika & Kelsey.*