

Asbury United Methodist Church

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Worship Leader: Alice Pace
*Please rise in body or spirit

Chancel: Kerri Dorsey

“Fill My Wounds with Healing” Week 3

Music for Gathering

“Christ Beside Me”

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: Our call to “plenty” today on this third week of our worship series is to plentiful healing. Indeed there are plentiful wounds in this world, and plentiful threats of more wounds to come. It was as true in Jesus’ day as it is in ours. People came to Jesus carrying wounds of body, mind, and spirit. This week we continue the story of Jesus in his own hometown. Especially when wounding hits “close to home,” we tend to panic. Fear and anger may set in. The antidote? Join Jesus in his economy of healing for all people.

“Abundance” (sing refrain only)

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

L: In this world of striving,

P: we feel the yearn to earn.

L: The world measures our worth in those earnings.

P: But Jesus had different ideas.

L: When they demanded special treatment,

P: he offered healing and wholeness for all – not just for some.

L: When we feel our own resources are lacking,

P: we can view our lives and practices again from the economy of Jesus.

Let us pray:

God of Restoration,
we come to you today, bringing a laundry list of things
that we wish we could change about the world, ourselves, and each other.
In the midst of our longing, remind us that your goodness
is not earned by our being good, and that we are called to share your mercy
with everyone inside and outside of this faithful community. Amen.

Opening Hymn/Song UMH 593 *"Here I Am, Lord"* vs. 1,2

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 *plethora of peace*" among you, remembering to pass it to those joining us remotely.

Choir Special *"God's Grace Is So Amazing"*

Gospel Lesson

Luke 4: 21-30

Reader: Jesus' encounter with the crowd in Nazareth continues. Perhaps they feel they have the hometown advantage, and they want Jesus to exercise his renowned powers for them. But Jesus is not compliant. God's economy of wholeness is not just for insiders; it is for outcasts and foreigners. When we don't get an acceptable answer to the question, "what's in it for us," we sometimes try to push Hope itself off a cliff. Hear this word from the 4th chapter of Luke:

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

This is a Word of God reminding us that we can never out-spend
the healing power that fills our broken spirits.

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 Rev. Yohan Go

Prayers of the People

UMH 389 "Freely, Freely" vs 1

Leader: In the economy of Jesus, we are not running a for-profit industry. God's love cannot be earned, and no one gets special treatment, even the people who follow all the rules. We welcome all people into the healing experience of witness and connection that we find in this community.

Sing Together:

**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 be focusing on naming gifts of abundance we have received in the week, instances where we have seen the abundance of Christ at work in the world, and we will ask for the wisdom and strength to change so that abundance is more available to 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.

[pause]

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.

[pause]

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 healing in the house.

[pause]

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.

**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 *"Seek Ye First"*
Kerri Dorsey, Barbara Bishop, and Frank Rose

Hymn **UMH# 620 One Bread, One Body**

Communion

Closing Hymn TFWS 2153 *"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" vs. 1,2*

Benediction

The jars are full in the Kin-dom of God.
The house is full of the healing we need
and the healing 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.

Postlude *"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"* Hanna Noh

Announcements

1. The worship leader for Sunday, February 9th is Lee Arnold.
2. **New Member Orientation Class:** The class will be held on February 9th and 16th from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., immediately following the worship service. If you are interested, please fill out the registration form and submit it to the pastor or the church office.
3. **Save the date for Asbury's next event at Top Golf in Cranston.** Enjoy a breakfast buffet and 2-hrs of simulated golf activities. This fun-filled gathering is great for anyone who loves group activity and laughs. You don't have to know how to play golf. All levels welcome from those who like mini golf to those dying to brush off their clubs for 18 holes. If interested, you **MUST sign up by Feb 16th** by contacting Andrea (401-207-8017) or signing up at church. We have a Prospective date March 1st 10a-12p.
4. May Tea Party Planning meeting coming very soon! February date to be announced.
5. We will be having a food drive for the month of February. The foods needed are listed for 30 days. Proceeds from this drive will be donated to Holliman and Norwood Elementary School, which serve over 500 children. We are often unaware of those with food insecurities in our own neighborhoods. The team at these schools coordinates their efforts to help individual families who are struggling to put healthy food on the table for their children...either for a week, a month or for the school year we will be assisting them to help meet these needs. You can purchase all your items at once, daily, weekly, whichever is easiest for you. Please place them in a box and bring them to the church coffee room by the 1st week of March. Some gentle reminders: some folks may not have a can opener, so look for pull top tabs on canned items. No glass items. Please check the expiration dates. Try to search for healthy alternatives whenever possible. It would be helpful to bring your groceries to Asbury in a **sturdy box or bag**.

Birthdays

3rd Carolyn Lamothe

5th James Keene & Allen Lucini

6th Danika Hallam & Michael Whitney

Flowers *The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God and in loving remembrance of our friend Warren Cole.*