

Welcome to the Worship of the Lord

Auburn United Methodist Church

Holy Humor Sunday

(a.k.a. "Bright Sunday")

April 11, 2021

10 am

Greetings and Announcements

*Act of Faith (i.e. "Praise Ye the Lord! Hallelujah!")

*Call to Worship – see insert

*Hymn - 261 "Lord of the Dance" vv. 3-5

Opening Prayer, followed by the 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, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.*

Prayer Response "Lord of the Dance" – refrain sung softly

*Dance, laugh, wherever you may be.
For He is the Lord of the Dance said He.
And He'll lead us all in joy and jubilee
For He is Lord of the Dance said He.*

Children's Message

*Praise Song – "Be Still and Know"

Scripture – John 20:19-29

Message: "He's Back!: Troubled Thomas and the Original Winners of March Madness"

*Hymn - 302 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

*Benediction

The Scripture for Sunday, April 11, 2021

John 20:19-29

¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

DISCLAIMER: Today is "Holy Humor Sunday" or "Bright Sunday", it is an old tradition of Greek Christians dating back many centuries, for the Sunday after Easter Sunday. Following the long, 40 period of the reflective and penitent Lenten season, and the intense events of Holy Week, Holy Humor Sunday offers us a chance to laugh and experience joy. This year we will see if we can rediscover the wisdom and grace of this light-hearted tradition. Any similarities to people, past or present, fictional or real is strictly coincidental. Your presence at this service is your consent and agreement to collaborate in humor that may walk an irreverent line at times, and that your continued presence after reading this disclaimer nullifies and makes void any complaints both verbal or written subsequent to the completion of this service or henceforth from this point. This print is becoming increasingly small because I am running out of space in this bulletin. Objections, criticisms, protests, or other forms of disapproval are not valid in Michigan or some other states, including the states of confusion, boredom, dissatisfaction and territories of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands. We hope that you will enjoy this sarcastic, farcical, and at times parody of Christian acts of worship, but is not intended to disrespect, diminish or discredit historic faith traditions and creeds. If you can still read this you have an awesome optometrist and should send him or her a thank-you note. If you cannot then perhaps it is time to make an appointment with your eye doctor. By the way who named the Virgin Islands? In a galaxy far, far away...Star Wars! May the Force be with you, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Worship (as experienced in all those other churches across America)

Key: Leader – Pastor Rob (unless Jesus returns, then He is your undisputed leader)

W – Women

M – Men

Front – ALL those seated in front of the yellow “caution” tape

All - All

Leader: Let us stand – And now for something completely different:

Bm: I wonder what that will be?

Leader: Blessed are the cheesemakers!

W: What! That doesn't sound right!

M: What's he talking about?

All: For they shall be called the children of God

W: Sure are lots of kids in church these days!

M: Pastor says that's a really good thing.

Front: Shsssh!

W: Turn your hearing aid up.

M: Sorry, I turned it down for the praise songs – they're loud!

Leader: Blessed are the downcast, the lost, the rejected, and the hobos!

M: I wish he's stop bringing that up.

W: He said, “Hobos”

All: For they shall be welcomed, and fed, and be satisfied.

M: I'm hungry. Where should we go to lunch after church?

W: Men are always thinking about food!

Leader: Blessed those who hunger and thirst for the Kingdom of God

(Over)

All: For they shall be satisfied.

M: I'll be satisfied when we have coffee hour again

W: We can't have coffee hour until the refrigerator is fixed!

Leader: Blessed are you when you are wronged, and are still able to forgive.

All: For that is the way of the Lord Jesus.

M: what does “Lord” mean? Is that like, “Lords and Ladies?”

Leader: Blessed are the outcast, the misfits, the odd ducks, and the hard to love.

All: For God's love for us is steadfast and everlasting.

M: Where is that in the Bible?

W: Ask Dayton, he knows the Bible.

Leader: Blessed are you when people persecute you, and irritate you,
And poke fun at your foibles!

M: Did he say “fumbles?”

W: Shsssh! All I can hear is you talking! and your stomach growling.

All: Rejoice and be glad, for in the same way they treated the prophets.

W: What was the profit of the last rummage sale?

M: If we have another one, it should be a bake sale too!

Leader: Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves!

All: For they shall be light-hearted, and always have a measure of joy

W: Do we need more Joy in the kitchen?

M: That's not what he's talking about.

Leader: Let us worship the Lord!

All: Amen!