

WORSHIP FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT
March 15, 2019 + 10:30 a.m.



Welcome to Echo Park United Methodist Church
A Reconciling Congregation



We are a church of open hearts, open minds and open doors.
We welcome you to worship here just as you are!

GATHERING

PRELUDE — Mina Rhee

INTROIT O Christ, the Healer — The Chancel Choir
Words: Fred Pratt Green; Music: *Geistliche Lieder* (Klug)
Verse 1

***CALL TO WORSHIP** In God We Live — Ember Knight
From the United Church of Christ website
(https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/called_to_be_the_church_five_sundays_of_lent.pdf)

Liturgist: It is in God that we live and move and have our being.

People: And so, in every moment of every day, we dance
with God, and God dances with all creation.

Liturgist: We don't often notice that we're dancing.

People: But sometimes, every once in a while, God's music
and movement break through... and we know!

*Liturgist: When we gather together as a community of faith, we
gather to help one another become open to the presence
of God.*

*** Please stand in body or spirit as you prefer.**

People: We gather to help one another be intentional in that
relationship.

Liturgist: We gather to help one another.

People: And in helping one another, we worship God.

***OPENING PRAYER** — Rev. Frank Wulf
From the United Church of Christ website
(https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/called_to_be_the_church_five_sundays_of_lent.pdf)

(Place your hands above your head.)

Pastor: Creator, touch our minds —

People: that we may worship with understanding.

(Place your hands in front of your eyes.)

Pastor: Christ, touch our eyes —

People: that we may recognize each other.

(Place your hands in front of your mouth.)

Pastor: Holy Spirit, touch our voices —

People: that our words would always praise you.

(Place your hands on your chest.)

Pastor: Love Divine, touch our hearts —

People: that your compassion would overflow.

(Place your hands one on top of the other with your palms up.)

Pastor: God of all, touch our hands —

People: that all we touch would be blessed, that all we touch
would be transformed, that all we touch would be
made new, by your love.

(Raise your hands in a gesture of praise.)

Pastor: With all that we are —

People: we worship you. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** O Church of God, United — The Congregation
Words: Frederick B. Morley; Music: *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkappelle*
United Methodist Hymnal #547 — Verses 1, 3, 4

WELCOME — Lay Leader Lois Price

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Rev. Frank Wulf

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children's Song Jesus Loves the Little Children — The Congregation
Words & Music: George F. Root

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Every color, every race, all are covered by God's grace.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

Children's Message

– Marcelina Souffle

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Invitation to Confession

– Ember Knight

Personal Prayers of Confession

– The Congregation Prays in Silence

Community Prayer of Confession

– Led by Ember Knight

People: God of living waters, we confess that we have often turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Our thirst mounts daily, seeking to be quenched by your redeeming love. Yet, when that love is offered to us, we again turn away, unable to truly believe that you would actually heal and love us. We have behaved in very unloving ways. We have chosen to ignore those in need or to deal only passively with them. Our hearts are not placed in service to others, but rather in self-serving motives. Heal us, merciful God. Wash us again in the living water. Help us be faithful servants. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

– Led by Ember Knight

*Liturgist: The waters of mercy and healing are poured over you.
God is loving and faithful to all who come seeking
God's loving and healing presence. In the name of
Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.*

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD! AMEN.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we ask you to refrain from making any form of physical contact with one another. Please greet one another from a distance of at least 6 feet. You may smile, bow slightly, wave, or speak words of welcome and peace.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** All Are Welcome – The Congregation
Words & Music: Marty Haugen
Verses 1, 2, 4, 5

Verse 1: Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Verse 2: Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Verse 4: Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Verse 5: Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

— The Congregation Shares Its Concerns Aloud

Prayer of the Community

— Prayed by Rev. Frank Wulf

The Prayer Jesus Taught

— Led by Ember Knight

People: 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

O Christ, the Healer

— The Chancel Choir

Words: Fred Pratt Green; Music: *Geistliche Lieder* (Klug)

Verse 2

SCRIPTURE

God Gives the People Water

— Read by Ember Knight

Exodus 17:1-7 (New Revised Standard Version, alt.)

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as GOD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test GOD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to GOD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵GOD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶“I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested GOD, saying, “Is GOD among us or not?”

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Bellman’s Carol

— The Chancel Choir

Words: Anonymous; Music: Traditional (arr. by Scott S. Withrow)

***GOSPEL**

The Samaritan Woman

— Read by Rev. Frank Wulf

John 4:5-42 (New Revised Standard Version, alt.)

⁵So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” ¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” ¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” ¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Creator neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Creator in spirit and truth, for the Creator seeks such as these to worship. ²⁴“God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman

said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to complete that one's work."³⁵ "Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting."³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together."³⁷ "For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Are You a Regular? — Rev. Frank Wulf

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering — Ember Knight

Offertory Apostle's Creed — Mina Rhee & Young yae Jo
Words & Music: Euichi Jung

***Doxology** — The Congregation

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Words: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*
United Methodist Hymnal #94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Prayer of Dedication** — The Congregation

People: The bills and the coins and the numbers in the bank
are symbols of the work of our hands, loving God.
We offer them to you, that they might be signs and
symbols of our worship as they go out into the
world. May they be used in ways that bring healing
and wholeness to all creation. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** Song of Hope — The Congregation
Words: Alvin Schutmaat; Music: Argentine Folk Melody
English Verse + Refrain

Verse: May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain: Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call. (*Repeat song*)

SENDING FORTH

***BLESSED TO LOVE AND SERVE**

***Benediction** — Led by Rev. Frank Wulf

Pastor: God of all, touch our hands —
People: that all we touch would be blessed, that all we touch
would be transformed, that all we touch would be
made new by your love.

Pastor: As we go into your world —

People: we worship you! Amen.

***Benediction Response** O Christ, the Healer — *The Chancel Choir*
Words: Fred Pratt Green; Music: *Geistliche Lieder* (Klug)
Verse 5

***POSTLUDE**

— *Mina Rhee*

ENTER TO WORSHIP



DEPART TO SERVE

***THE NOVA CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)
AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES***

In the face of the emerging COVID-19 health crisis, the Centers for Disease Control and other public health agencies recently recommended that people over the age of 60 and people with compromised immune systems avoid public gatherings like church worship services. In response to this recommendation, today's worship service is being live-streamed on Echo Park United Methodist Church's Facebook page. We hope, in this way, to provide for the spiritual needs of those who have chosen not to be physically present with us.

For those who have made the decision to be present, we offer the following guidance:

- Do not engage in physical contact such as handshakes, hugs, or kisses. Instead, greet each other with a smile, a slight bow, a friendly wave, or a friendly word of greeting. Remain at least 6 feet apart.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water on a regular basis and use hand sanitizers as an alternative.
- Stay home if you are not feeling well, and especially if you are sneezing or coughing.
- If you do cough or sneeze in public, cover your mouth with a tissue or the inside of your elbow.
- Seek immediate medical intervention if you develop flu-like symptoms.

Even as we pray for God to protect us during this health crisis, it is important that we do what we can to keep ourselves and others healthy.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS & SCHEDULING CHANGES

- The Fellowship Time following this morning's worship service has been cancelled.
- Today's meeting of the United Methodist Women has been cancelled.

- Laundry Love on Tuesday, March 17, has been cancelled.
- For now, the Shower Stop will continue to operate on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as scheduled.
- Tuesday morning distributions of hot food, clothing, and hygiene supplies are being suspended until further notice.
- All **in-person** worship services, church meetings, and Bible studies between now and Easter Sunday, April 12, are being suspended. (Please note that this date may change as more is learned about the pandemic's trajectory.)
- In the meantime, all worship services and Bible studies will be live-streamed and recorded. You may obtain information about how to connect to these online events or obtain a recorded copy of them by visiting the church's webpage (www.echoparkumc.wordpress.com) or by calling Pastor Wulf at the church office.
- Necessary meetings can be conducted using either online conferencing or conference calls. Pastor Wulf will be happy to assist in making arrangements for these meetings to occur.
- Please call the church office to let us know if you need anything at all during this time of uncertainty and fear.
- During this time of crisis, please continue to support Echo Park United Methodist Church financially. Please mail your contributions to the church office or donate online at <https://echoparkumc.wordpress.com/donate-here/>.
- *Called to Be the Church*, our Lenten Bible Study for 2020 will continue this coming Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 pm. This week's topic is "Are You a Regular?" based on Psalm 95:1-7. You will be able to find materials and information about preparing for the study on the church website. To join this study online, go to: <https://zoom.us/j/7184544317>.
- Sunday, March 22, is UMCOR Sunday, one of six special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. You may mail your contribution to the church office or make a donation online at <https://echoparkumc.wordpress.com/donate-here/>.
- Our Spring Stewardship Sunday, originally scheduled for March 29, will be rescheduled.
- To make a donation to UMCOR to help provide relief for victims of natural disasters around the world, including recent tornados in Tennessee, visit www.umcor.org.
- Today is Recycling Sunday. Please place your cleaned and sorted recyclables into the appropriate bins.

OUR RECONCILING STATEMENT

(Approved February 17, 2019)

Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so all can experience God's life-giving love.

Echo Park United Methodist Church is a faith community seeking to live in joyous response to the love of God in Christ.

We are people of Christ's new creation called to be ministers of reconciliation.

We are not always of the same mind, but we seek to be of the same Spirit, reaching out in unconditional love to let others know that there is a place of reconciliation: "There is a Balm in Gilead."

We share the Gospel and Spirit of Jesus Christ and open our community to all, especially to those who are hurt or have been left out because of racial differences, ethnic origin, gender identity, legal or immigration status, language, sexual orientation, disability, all who have suffered abuse or abandonment by society, or even by the church.



We invite you to make ECHO PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH your spiritual home as together we celebrate being a reconciling and inclusive ministry. We strive to love as Jesus loved, welcoming all people and excluding no one. It takes open hearts, open minds and open doors to make a place of real equality, respect, justice and peace. It takes people loving people to make God's reign a reality.

ECHO PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH A Reconciling Congregation

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Pastor: Rev. Frank Wulf + Music Director: Mina Rhee

