

Epiphany 5: Worship and Spirituality

February 4, 2018

Today's worship is structured around Heart Spirituality.

People with Heart Spirituality gauge the authenticity of worship by the way the experience feels to them. In their prayer language, they prefer personal names for God and concrete, tangible phrases: "Father," "Friend," "my personal Savior." The people of heart spirituality want a sermon that inspires, transforms, "convicts and converts." They want, in the words of Doris Aker's hymn "Sweet, Sweet Spirit," to "have been revived when we shall leave this place." Those with Heart Spirituality appreciate how sharing time allows for any participant to share whatever is on their heart. Time and the order of worship are not the point. While singing the hymn stanzas in sequence is important, it is imperative that there be freedom to repeat a refrain or to continue the music under the words of a prayer. There is stronger attention to the immediate movement of the Spirit than to the order of service on the page.

GATHERING AND PRAISING

Welcome and Passing the Peace Natalya Rodriguez

Lord I Lift Your Name on High
Hilary Rhodes and Jeremy Botts, Songleaders

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Children's Time Meredith Bazzoli

HEARING THE WORD

Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 147

Leader: Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

**People: The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**

Leader: He heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.

**People: He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.**

Leader: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

**People: The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.**

Leader: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.

**People: He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.**

Leader: He gives to the animals their food,
and to the young ravens when they cry.

**People: His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;
but the LORD takes pleasure
in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

All: Praise the LORD!

God Encounter Story Eric Larson

Children of the Heavenly Father Blue #616, v. 1, 3
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Blue #589

RESPONDING IN COMMUNITY

Offering
God of the Bible Green #27
Be Thou My Vision Blue #545

Sharing Joys and Concerns Jan Rheinheimer
Congregational Announcements

SENDING

Be the Center
Benediction

This Week's Activities

Today	Nursery: Dave Kuhlmann Taylor, Elise Ewert; Kristin Martin, Laura Larson	10:00 AM 11:15 AM
	Adult Classes • <i>Worship and Spirituality</i> (Sanctuary) • <i>Ephesians</i> (Conference Room)	11:30 AM
Tue	Lunch Bunch at Maxfields	12:00 PM
Wed	WOW Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sat	MYF Lombardo's Bistro	5:30-8:00 PM

Next Sunday: Kingdom Spirituality

Next week, our worship will be structured around **Kingdom Spirituality**.

People of Kingdom Spirituality are the “doers.” Their work *is* their prayer. Worship strengthens and prepares them in concrete ways for the task of ministering in and to the world. They have a vision of justice and direct their energy toward bringing about God’s reign in the world. They remind us to pray for the world, to consider the poor, and to work for justice.

Announcements in worship should lift up opportunities for missions and service that makes a difference in the community. People of this spiritual type appreciate how sharing allows the community/congregation to hear one another. They appreciate responses to the sermon—as long as the responses do not *become* a sermon. They connect best when people share prayer requests that stem from living out God’s work in their lives.

—*Encounters with the Holy* by Barbara Day Miller. Adapted by Adrien Hayward.

Next Sunday's Schedule

There will be no Sunday School hour next Sunday (February 11), in order to enable full participation in our Kingdom Spirituality service. Congregants can choose to participate in one of two activities during this time: a “Welcome the Stranger” vigil with Immigrant Solidarity DuPage in Wheaton’s Adams Park, or packing MCC hygiene kits at LMC.

Schedule for the day:

10:00 AM

- Brief service at LMC
- Vigil setup begins in Adams Park, Wheaton

10:30 AM

- Kit packing begins in the Fellowship Hall
- Vigil participants begin to gather at Adams Park

11:00 AM

- Vigil begins in Adams Park

11:30 AM

- Kit packing concludes at LMC

12:30 PM

- Estimated end time for vigil in Adams Park

Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in either activity. Nursery volunteers will be available at LMC during the service and kit packing, and at Gary United Methodist’s Burning Bush Gallery, across the street from Adams Park.

“Welcome the Stranger” Vigil

- The “**Welcome the Stranger**” vigil during our February 11 service will be co-hosted by LMC and Immigrant Solidarity DuPage. Other participating organizations include Gary United Methodist (Wheaton), St Andrew’s United Methodist (Carol Stream), Life, Faith and Hope Mission (West Chicago), and Pax Christi Illinois.

- The vigil will begin inside **Adams Park**, with a program of speakers and song, followed by a procession around the park's perimeter. The activity will conclude with a standing vigil along Main Street on the park's western side.
- You are encouraged to **bring signs of welcome** for immigrants and refugees and/or signs proclaiming the biblical call to welcome the strangers in our communities.

Announcements

- The MYF are hosting **Lombardo's Bistro this Saturday** (Feb 10), from 5:30-8:00 PM. Breathe easy as you enjoy a homemade four-course meal with family or friends. Donations are encouraged to support the MYF international trip this summer. Contact Katharine or Hillary for the link to the online registration sheet. Hope to see you there!
- Congratulations to **pastor Hillary** who has just been approved for ordination by the Illinois Mennonite Conference Church Life Team! Stay tuned for a date when the congregation will celebrate the ordination with her.
- Would you like to **connect with some amazing young people** at LMC? Here's your chance: we need a second teacher to help with the 3rd-5th grade class, from the beginning of March until the end of May. Contact Melissa Miller if you're interested.
- Plan to join us for **Ash Wednesday worship** at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, February 14. Through song, scripture, prayer, and the imposition of ashes, we will enter into reflection and confession as we acknowledge our dependence on the God who sustains our lives.
- We'll hold "A Concert for Hope and Grace" on Saturday, February 17, at 7 PM. Donations to this benefit concert will help cover the costs associated with bringing a *Listening for Grace* production to LMC. See the articles in *Vital Signs* for more information.