 **BROKEN BOW UNITED METHODIST CHRUCH**

**Answering God’s Call – March 29, 2020**

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**Greeting & Opening Announcements**

*These are the scripted version of Pastor Matt’s greeting and announcements that begin the worship service.*

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus.

This is our second week pre-recording worship. There is a link to the bulletin with announcements for today in worship near your video feed, as well as on my blog ([www.matthewefowler.wordpress.com](http://www.matthewefowler.wordpress.com)), where you’ll find a manuscript of today’s sermon.

We will continue to suspend all large-group, in-person gatherings indefinitely. Near the end of April, we will update our direction and communicate that with you.

If you did not receive a phone message from me last night, please call the church office tomorrow and ask to be added to the list. And, sign up for the weekly E-Blast by emailing beth@bbumc.org.

If you’re watching on Facebook, please make a comment that you’re watching, and consider sharing this via Facebook as a way of inviting others to worship.

One act of worship is typically offering ourselves and our gifts to God’s glory and God’s mission through the church. Secure online giving is available through our website: bbumc.org.

And, a team of people is available at the church Sundays between 8 and noon for Drive-by Offering and Blessings. All from the comfort of your care you can…

You can make sure your car remembers the way to the church.

You can bring any financial offering, or pray the entire way about what you’re offering to partner with and praise God.

And you can leave having received a prayerful blessing from another.

Please also know that, while we’re all staying home or away from other people, you are more than welcome to call me, and call each other.

Here are four things you can do in every conversation with others:

Ask and listen – just to share in relationship;

Do a soul check – early Methodists asked each other weekly, “How is it with your soul?” Check on each other’s spirits?

Check on practical stuff – “What do you need today?” Then brainstorm some resources.

Prayer for each other.

Finally, we are coordinating some additional, at-home discipleship opportunities to help us continue to foster spiritual habits and practices through which we’ll grow in the knowledge, love, and service of God. These will be posted to Facebook and emailed through the Blast.

**Gathering as God’s People**

**Centering Music & Procession**

**Call to Worship**

One: The Living God is with us!

**All: And with all creation! Praise the Lord!**

One: In whatever room we gather, on devices separated by distance, we praise God who is with us, and unites us together.

**All: Through the waters, through you Spirit, you make us new.**

One: When the darkness of our days seems to grow and birth despair, God assures us of God’s presence.

**All: In Jesus, light of the world, darkness can never overcome your marvelous light.**

One: When our strength fails, our resolve falters, and our vision fails, God assures us of God’s love.

**All: Jesus, Light of the World, Love of God, we praise you.**

**Singing** – “Blessed Assurance” (vv. 1-3) *UMH*, 369

**Hearing God’s Good News Call**

**Singing** – “It Is Well with My Soul” (vv. 1-4) *UMH*, 377

**Scripture Lessons** – John 1:35-50 (CEB)

**Singing** – “Jesus Loves Me” (vv. 1, 3) *UMH*, 191

**Sermon** – “Walking with Jesus through Sharing” Pastor Matt Fowler

**Responding as God’s Gathering**

**Confession of Faith** *UMH*, 882

**Prayers of the Community & the World**

*Please share any prayer requests with Pastor Matt*.

**Prayer Song** – “Cares Chorus” *TFWS*, 2215

**Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**  *UMH*, 895

**Being Sent as God’s**

**Disciple-Making, World-Transforming Mission**

**Singing** – “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations” (vv. 1-2) *UMH*, 569

**Blessing and Sending Forth**

**Singing** – “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations” (vv. 3-4) *UMH*, 569

**Postlude**

Announcements

**Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary:** Bob & Sondra Foster celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on March 27th. Congrats to them!!

**A New Baby:** Margaret (Maggie) Joy Meyer was born on February 23rd, 2020, weighing 7 lbs, 9 oz in Omaha, Nebraska. Parents Bryan and Ali and older brother Luke of Colon (Wahoo) are beyond excited to have Maggie, along with grandparents Gary and Stephanie Meyer of Broken Bow, Nebraska, and Larry Jansen of Omaha, Nebraska, and Julie Bradshaw of Helena, Montana.

**Sermons a la Carte:** Has been cancelled for the remainder of Lent

**Online Giving is available:** through the Church Website and GivePlus Mobile App, for recurring and

single-time giving.

**Suspended Ministries:** (see a full announcement at [www.bbumc.org](http://www.bbumc.org))

We will be practicing **physical (social)** **distancing** as a means of caring for each other indefinitely. We will re-evaluate the situation near the end of April and communicate an updated direction at that time.

* All large-group, in-person gatherings are **suspended indefinitely.**
  + This means no Wednesday CRC, no in-person Sunday morning worship, and no in-person Sunday School.

However, we will also seek to practice **distance discipling** through the following invitations:

* **Participate in worship as BBUMC online** ([www.bbumc.org](http://www.bbumc.org) or [www.facebook.com/BowUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BowUMC)) each Sunday, accessible by 8:30am.
  + Worship will be shorter than usual, but similar in style and content, with multiple leaders participating.
* **Drive-By Offering and Blessing:** Sundays 8am-noon
  + We will have people available in the church driveway to help you maintain the Sunday morning habits of driving to church and giving something of yourself to God through the church.
  + Those in the car will be offered a brief blessing from those outside the car.
* **Grow through study, prayer, and conversation.** 
  + Watch the BBUMC Facebook page and website for **additional discipleship tools**, which may include brief Bible studies, prayers, or scriptures from Pastor Matt, Denise Sughayar, and others.
* **Practice the Five Essential Practices of Walking with Jesus**
  + Worship together and pray at least five times a day
  + Study scriptures – at least five verses a day or five chapters a week
  + Serve others by showing five acts of kindness a week
  + Give of your resources for the ministry of Christ as church, and through five acts of extravagant generosity a month.
  + Share you faith, on social media and in person, inviting five people to worship during this year.

As you know, this situation is fluid. Details and directives from state, national, medical, and clerical leaders are changing daily. BBUMC will adjust our schedule accordingly and communicate through our normal communication media.

***“***God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of great trouble. That’s why we won’t be afraid when the world falls apart, when the mountains crumble into the center of the sea, when its waters roar and rage, when the mountains shake because of its surging waves*” (Psalm 46:1-3, CEB).*